

Keeping in Touch

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304, Los Angeles, CA 90020-9990 (213) 464-5100

JULY

TOP 20 TITHES
received by Aug. 15th 1984
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas - TX	\$2003.62
MCC of the Resurrection - Houston TX	1797.75
MCC Long Beach - CA	1089.59
MCC in the Valley - N. Hollywood, CA	807.99
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldl., FL	717.25
MCC of Greater St. Louis - MO	691.39
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	688.34
MCC Los Angeles - CA	669.92
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - TX	653.31
MCC Seattle - WA	581.99
MCC Washington - DC	510.53
MCC Albuquerque - NM	446.51
MCC San Antonio - TX	401.86
Christ the King MCC - Oklahoma, OK	350.03
MCC San Jose - CA	338.62
MCC Mid-Cities - Arlington, TX	318.64
MCC Columbus - OH	284.80
MCC Dayton Parish - OH	231.31
MCC of Northern Virginia - Oakton, VA	230.37
MCC of Corpus Christi - TX	194.49

JULY

TOP 20 TITHES
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(Per Capita)

Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	\$25.49
St. Joan of Arc MCC - Charleston, SC	19.60
MCC of Greater St. Louis - MO	18.94
MCC of Corpus Christi - TX	17.84
MCC Long Beach - CA	17.63
MCC Iliamo - Quincy, IL	14.91
Diablo Valley MCC - Concord, CA	14.83
Pensacola MCC - FL	13.92
Trinity MCC - New York City, NY	13.89
Esodus MCC of Abilene - TX	13.85
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - TX	13.75
Divine Redeemer MCC - Glendale, CA	13.33
MCC of Birmingham - AL	13.29
MCC Albuquerque - NM	12.83
MCC of Northern Virginia - Oakton, VA	12.59
MCC Harrisburg - PA	12.54
MCC Mid-Cities - Arlington, TX	12.40
MCC Omaha - NE	12.39
MCC Dallas - TX	12.06
MCC San Jose - CA	12.01

*** PRAISES ***

-As MCC-Washington, D.C. left their home of 11 years and marched to their new Church building, some were apprehensive about how the large crowd of worshipers would be received in their new neighborhood. As they drew near, a banner greeted them: "Welcome to the neighborhood, MCC!" We think it must be a first!

-For two new Church Groups in the Mid-Atlantic District: "Emmanuel MCC" in Wilmington, Delaware and "Disciples MCC" in Washington, D.C.

-Reverend Bruce Hill has been elected Pastor of MCC-Atlanta, Georgia. Congratulations!

-St. Joan of Arc MCC (Charleston, SC) recently dedicated their new sanctuary and Rectory. Charleston's first woman Episcopal priest, Rev. Connie Belmore was an honored guest, plus priests from St. Phillip & Luke's Cathedral.

-Reverend Stan Harris and Reverend David Kromer give thanks for the 7th anniversary of their Holy Union on September 27th.

-Praises for the beginnings of a new Church in Tijuana, Mexico!

-Reverend Marilyn Marr and Brenda Gordon are getting settled in their new home in Anchorage, Alaska. Marilyn reports that it is a big adjustment as they moved from Tampa, Florida and already there is "termination dust" (snow) in the mountains surrounding Anchorage. Prayers are coveted for MCC-Anchorage's new beginnings. Reverend Troy Perry was on hand for this year's annual retreat.

-Reverend Brent Hawkes, members and staff of MCC-Toronto, Reverend Nancy Radclyffe, Reverend Dennis Chappelle, Reverend Tom Jordan, Reverend Fred Pattison and others converged on Garden Grove, California recently to attend Schuller's Institute. All reported high energy and enthusiasm for the program and MCC's reception.

-Rev. Larry Whitsell has been elected pastor of MCC Diablo Valley, Concord, CA.

-Rev. Ron Bergeron, District Coordinator of the Eastern Canadian District and pastor of MCC Ottawa has been invited by Archbishop Plourde of Ottawa to be an official guest at the Papal Mass to be celebrated in Ottawa September 20th, as part of an ecumenical group welcoming Pope John Paul II to Canada.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Elder Freda Smith and Kathleen Meadows would like to thank everyone for their prayers, love and expressions of concern during Kathleen's recuperation. Kathleen had a mild heart attack in mid-August, and is making a superb recovery. Both of them wanted to convey their appreciation for being part of such a wonderful family.

REVISED EDITION OF THE CLERGY MANUAL

The 1984 revised edition of The Clergy Manual will be available October 1 from the UFMCC Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee (CCCC). Included are clarifications about active and inactive status for clergy, de facto resignation, and transfer of credentials. The Clergy Manual sells for \$10 (payable in U.S. funds to CCCC) and should be ordered from The Rev. Claudia Vierra, Chair of CCCC, 1015 E. Jefferson, Boise, ID 83712. All UFMCC clergy and those seeking clergy credentials should have a copy of this manual. Persons who bought the 1983 edition can order the new updated pages free of charge.

NEW CORRESPONDENCE COURSE FOR BIBLE PROFICIENCY EXAM

Samaritan Extended Studies and CCCC have been cooperating in developing a Bible survey correspondence course that may be taken in preparation for the Bible proficiency exam (required for licensing) or in lieu of the exam (if taken for credit and passed). The new course, Understanding the Bible, will be ready in September. For more information and enrollment form, contact Samaritan Extended Studies, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107. This new 3-credit course should not be confused with the already existent Samaritan correspondence course, What Is the Bible? (1 credit). The tuition for Understanding the Bible is \$150, and the textbook, Abingdon Bible Handbook, is \$20 (payable in U.S. funds to Samaritan Extended Studies). Students who desire the course materials only (no credit or grading of test) to prepare for the exam will be charged only \$50, plus the textbook.

UFMCC Polity is already available as a Samaritan correspondence course and may be taken in preparation for the Polity proficiency exam or in lieu of it. This 1-credit course costs \$50.

Persons applying for initial license in March 1985 must have completed any correspondence courses taken in lieu of exams by February 1.

THANKS FOR STEWARDSHIP PROJECT GIFTS

The following MCC congregations have donated a total of \$1080 to Samaritan Extended Studies for the development of a stewardship program for local churches: Church of the Holy Spirit MCC (Des Moines, Iowa); MCC Dallas (Dallas, Texas); Christ MCC (Miami, Florida); MCC Tampa (Tampa, Florida); MCC St. Louis (St. Louis, Missouri); MCC in the Valley (North Hollywood, California); and the Northeast District. This initial seed money is being used by a committee to put together GOOD NEWS: A STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR MCC CONGREGATIONS, and to offer this program as a pilot project in the Northeast District during the fourth quarter of 1984. It will become available to the rest of the Fellowship in 1985.

RESUMES REQUESTED

The Board of Elders, in keeping with the mandate of General Conference, is looking at resumes for additional appointments to the Fellowship Finance Committee from qualified Third World persons.

The Fellowship Finance Committee meets at least once per year and at General Conferences to oversee the budget process for the Fellowship. Please include all information that would be relevant. If you have any questions feel free to call Elder Michael Mank (415) 648-6006 or Elder Nancy Wilson (213) 464-5100.

1985 CLERGY CONFERENCE UPDATE

The 1985 Clergy Conference will be January 24-27 (Thursday noon to Sunday noon) at Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, Winter Park, Orlando, FL. Theme--Strength and Support--focus--Clergy needs. Guest resource persons will be Joe Bottorff and Rusty Moe of Options of Indianapolis, who will lead participants in The Personal Profile (an instrument for understanding oneself and how one works and interacts) and in personal/spiritual growth exercises. Other conference activities include colleague sharing, trust-building, resource/program sharing, ad hoc workshops on expressed needs, worship services, fun, etc. Total cost per person from \$180 to \$240 which includes nine meals, conference registration, The Personal Profile, and scholarship help. Set the dates aside now!

REV. BOB ARTHUR LOVING ENGLAND

Bob reports that he has fallen in love with England and its people. In fact, he has been surprised by how little homesickness he has experienced (aside from missing friends and his Church family at Long Beach, CA).

Bob is currently being supported by a handful of Fellowship Churches in the Southwest District. He hopes to be able to continue his ministry there for quite some time. In England, the support of just a few churches for a one year period has made an incredible difference. We now have a healthy, strong, growing church in Birmingham and have doubled the ministerial leadership in Europe. We have laid the groundwork for a new district to form (there is talk of England and Denmark becoming a district) and outreach into the rest of Europe is blossoming.

The support for Bob ends in December of this year. Clearly his work is not finished yet and the Birmingham church is not yet quite able to handle paying a full time pastor.

We need some new churches to come forward to support this pioneering experiment for another year's commitment. We would be delighted if some churches renewed their funding as well. We would also like to look forward to finding support for other pastors to go to Europe.

If your church would like to receive the blessings of sharing the liberating message of Jesus Christ through MCC, write to:

Rev. C. Jane Carl
World Church Extension Ministry
c/o MCC of the Pamona Valley
508 S. Euclid Ave.
Ontario, CA 91761

* * * MONTHLY REPORT FORMS * * *

Please note the following procedure which should be followed for sending the Monthly Report Forms (ie Tithing forms):

- (1) White Copy - to UFMCC office
- (2) Yellow Copy - for the local Church
- (3) Pink Copy - for the District Coordinator or Coordinator of Church Ext.

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JUNE

TOP 20 TITHES
received by July 15
(In Amount Given)

MCC of the Resurrection - Houston, TX	\$1496.79
MCC Dallas - Dallas, TX	1366.40
MCC of Greater St. Louis - St. Louis, MO	1209.09
Church of the Holy Spirit - Ft. Ladle., FL	895.89
MCC in the Valley - N. Hollywood, CA	869.10
MCC Long Beach - CA	808.99
MCC Los Angeles - CA	766.47
MCC San Francisco - CA	736.29
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Anna, CA	608.78
New York MCC - NY	591.22
Seattle MCC - WA	531.15
Agape MCC - Fort Worth, TX	489.39
MCC Portland - OR	468.08
MCC Washington - D.C.	420.63
MCC of Greater Tulsa - OK	420.55
Joy MCC - Orlando, FL	401.44
MCC Albuquerque - N.M.	346.85
MCC Casa De Cristo - Phoenix, AZ	382.07
MCC Wichita - KS	334.04
MCC San Antonio - TX	312.41

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MCC Anchorage - AK	\$42.10
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Anna, CA	29.27
MCC San Francisco - CA	19.12
MCC Long Beach - CA	17.86
Church of the Holy Spirit - Ft. Ladle., FL	17.20
Galvary MCC - Redwood City, CA	17.09
MCC of Acadiana - Lafayette, LA	16.43
Diablo Valley MCC - Diablo Valley, CA	16.42
MCC Harrisburg - PA	15.61
MCC of Greater Tulsa - OK	15.35
Church of New Hope - Waterloo, IA	15.30
River Cities MCC - Shreveport, LA	14.72
Christ the Liberator - Princeton, NJ	14.24
MCC Las Vegas - NV	13.65
MCC Ocean of Life - Costa Mesa, CA	13.57
Agape MCC - Fort Worth, TX	13.56
MCC of the Resurrection - Houston, TX	13.48
MCC Albuquerque - N.M.	13.29
MCC San Jose - CA	13.14

*** PRAISES ***

-MCC Buffalo - in New York, dedicated their building on June 17, 1984 with guest preacher, Rev. Brent Hawkes, Pastor of MCC Toronto, Canada. Buffalo's building is the first MCC owned property in the North-east District.

-The South Atlantic District is exploring the possibilities of an 18th Church in their District!

-Congratulations to Ms. Sandi Robinson of MCC Columbus, Ohio who is the new Co-chair of the Department of Ecumenical Relations.

-Congratulations to Rev. Jose Mojica and Rev. LaPaula Turner who have been appointed as alternates to the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee.

-Congratulations to the following newly-licensed Clergy:

Rev. Bradley C. Anderson	Rev. Bruce Brown
Rev. Patricia Bumgardner	Rev. Joan M. Carlson
Rev. Ron E. Coons	Rev. Theresa DeMarco
Rev. Yvette Dube	Rev. Mary A. Frantz
Rev. Ruby Grammer	Rev. Karen Gregg
Rev. Sherry Kennedy	Rev. V. Patricia Litka
Rev. Patrick H. Mechem	Rev. Diane Miller
Rev. Jack Mossman	Rev. Margie D. Perry
Rev. Janet Pierce	Rev. Robert Pierce
Rev. Danny Ray	Rev. Sheila Rawls
Rev. Lanette Remington	Rev. Phillip A. Slusser
Rev. Charlotte Stryhorne	Rev. Steven Torrence
Rev. Pat Warriner	Rev. Emmett J. Watkins Jr.

-Congratulations to the following clergy who have been approved for Ordination:

Rev. Robert Copestake	Rev. Louis de Spain
Rev. B. J. McDaniels	Rev. Jodi Safier
Rev. La Paula Turner	

-Congratulation to Ms. Lois Luneberg (of MCC Ventura, CA., former Treasurer of the SW District) who is the 5th appointee to the UFMCC Board of Pensions. We now have a complete Board.

-Congratulations to the following new Mission Churches in UFMCC:

Good Shepherd MCC	Oasis MCC
Riverside, CA	Phoenix, AZ
MCC Louisville, KY	Faith Eternal MCC
	(Springfield, IL)

-Congratulations to the following new Chartered Churches in UFMCC:

MCC San Gabriel Valley, CA, Acadiana MCC, Lafayette, LA
Redeemer MCC, Flint, MI

-Congratulations to Mid Atlantic District Coordinator
Adam De Baugh & his lover Rick on their first Anniversary
together.

GSS, COL Meeting in Florida

The Commission on Government System & Structures (GSS) will be meeting August 8th through the 14th, 1984 in Fort Lauderdale, FL. According to Rev. John Gill, Chairperson of GSS, the group plans to review the feedback from workshops held in Districts & World Church Extension (WCE) areas based on the initial draft prepared in Kansas City. They will then complete another draft, copy, along with appropriate rationale for the changes. The new draft will then be distributed in time for the next District & WCE conferences.

The Commission on Laity (COL), will be meeting on the 8 August and part of 9 Aug. '84. According to Ms. Jackie Walker, Chairperson, the group plans on finalizing a "WORKSHOP FOR LAY DELEGATES" and discuss future plans.

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- (3) Pink Copy - for the District Coordinator or Coordinator of Church Ext.

This is a new procedure, in that only one copy is to be sent to the Fellowship Office. At the next printing of these Forms, we will make the necessary notation on the forms. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

*** THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE ***

The UFMCC SECOND International Third World Conference is being held October 5-7, 1984 in New York City. The theme of this years conference is "YOU SHALL INDEED GO OUT IN JOY AND BE LED FORTH IN PEACE." Isaiah 55:12

Informational brochures, including registration forms, have been mailed to every congregation. More are available through the Fellowship Offices or from Rev. Renee McCoy - c/o MCC Harlem, P O Box 574, New York, NY 10030.

The keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Emilie Townes from Chicago, who will share her experiences of pastoring a Third World Lesbian & Gay congregation, in Chicago. There will be workshops, worship services, panels, music and singing. The first night, of the conferences will be concluded with a party in the style of the Old Harlem House Parties. It promises to be great - see you there!

*** ELDERS MEETING SUMMARY ***

-Three Churches were Chartered, Four given Mission Status.

-Northern & Southern Australia were reunited as one District, with New Zealand remaining a Church Extension Area.

-Review of the 1979 "Ten Year Plan" is underway for the 1985 General Conference.

-Plans for General Conference are being made. Rev. Danny Ray was formally appointed Director of Music and Worship. The Convention Center in Sacramento is a beautiful, modern, attractive, air-conditioned place for General Conference!

-The appointment of women and Third World people to Commissions and Committees continues. More decisions will be made in November.

"Referendum for the 21st Century" is the theme for Fellowship Sunday. Stay tuned!

-The Gay Christian was formally discontinued after two years without an issue. Long range planning for publications of all kinds were referred to a sub-committee of the Board of Elders to bring back in November.

-Plans are beginning for the first four-day Elders and District Coordinators meeting in February 1985.

*** SAMARITAN NEWS ***

Samaritan is moving! Effective Sept. 1, 1984, Samaritan Education Center will have a new home at 3327-29 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90004. The new building will give us our first full library space with a separate office for the Librarian, three (3) class room areas to accommodate various size classes, student lounge with kitchen and bathroom plus offices for both the Dean and her Assistant. The move will give us about three times our current space and something totally new to Samaritan. Every room and office has windows! Praise God and join us in the move (meet at 10am Saturday Aug. 11, 1984 at the old "seminary"). If you can't come pray! Send all correspondence and calls to current address until Sept. 1, 1984.

Dean Sherre Boothman has hired Joe Totten as the Assistant to the Dean. Joe comes to us from the Washington D.C. church where he has served as Student Clergy in charge of membership development. Some of you might remember Joe as International Treasurer of Dignity or before that as the first office manager for the Gay Rights National Lobby. In addition to working to move Samaritan, Joe will be Student Clergy at All Saints MCC in West Hollywood.

*** ATTENTION PLEASE ***

The Reverends Jodi Safier and Robert Ridgley Copestake, will be ordained on August 25, 1984 at 7pm. The Rite of Ordination will be held at MCC San Francisco. All are invited to attend. Congratulations Bob and Jodi!

***** FALL EXAM

Applications to take fall exams for CCCC is due Sept. 1, 1984. Hurry and get your application in. If you do not have an application, send your fees (\$10/section + \$10 for Study Guide) by September 1, 1984, To Rev. Claudia Vierra, 1015 East Jefferson, Boise, ID 83712 and an application will follow.

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July 1984

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JUNE

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MCC Dallas - Dallas, TX	\$ 1841.04
MCC of the Resurrection - Houston, TX	1285.01
MCC in the Valley	790.52
MCC Long Beach - Long Beach, CA	719.97
Church of The Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldle, FL	678.61
MCC Los Angeles - Los Angeles, CA	607.55
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - Ft. Worth, TX	570.72
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	565.34
MCC San Francisco - San Francisco, CA	516.58
MCC Washington - Washington, DC	509.30
MCC of Greater St. Louis - St. Louis, MO	457.06
MCC Seattle - Seattle, WA	444.03
MCC San Jose - San Jose, CA	427.08
MCC Portland - Portland, OR	404.33
MCC New York - New York, NY	376.22
MCC San Antonio - San Antonio, TX	368.78
Casa De Cristo MCC - Phoenix, AZ	340.91
All God's Children MCC - Minneapolis, MN	339.27
MCC Tampa - Tampa, FL	324.40
MCC of Greater Kansas City - Kansas City, MO	317.30

* * * PRAISES * * *

** Samaritan's "Orientation to MCC Pastoring" program (affectionately known as "Boot Camp") has gotten off to a great start in L.A. and Detroit!

** MCC Detroit is in the process of purchasing a building!

** MCC Washington D.C. is also about to close on a new building!

** Rev. Bob Arthur is recovering from a serious tooth infection that necessitated in a tracheotomy - he is at home after three weeks in the hospital.

** Rev. Jean White reports that the all-European Gay and Lesbian Christian Conference in Amsterdam, Holland was an enormous success, attended by 65 people from 9 countries. UFMCC TODAY in Dutch (translated by Rev. Johannes diMaria Kuiper and designed by Paula Schoenwether) was a big hit! The doors opened for several possible MCC congregations in other countries in Europe! Keep them in your prayers!

** Clarke Friesen was elected South Central District Coordinator for a four year term, and was hired full-time (\$24,000 per year) as of July 1st. Congratulations Clarke! The South Central District also gave SLACCC a grant of \$1,200., and Samartian \$500..

** MCC (ICM) Mexico City has found a building to purchase - a theater that seats over 300 persons -- stay tuned for more details!

** The National Council of Churches appointed a 3 person committee to work with UFMCC to design a process for continuing dialogue between us and the National Council, for presentation to the November Governing Board meeting.

** Rev. Nancy Wilson has been appointed a volunteer chaplain to the Gay and Lesbian community by the L.A. County Sheriff's Department.

** Rev. Mary Merriman, from Good News MCC in Lakeland, Florida, is representing UFMCC as a speaker at the National NOW Conference in Miami Florida.

** Praise God for the life of Dr. Calvin Turley, President of the Church of the New Jerusalem (Swedenborgian.) Dr. Turley died recently. He was personally supportive of MCC's application to the National Council, had been a pastoral counselor at the Homophile Community Health Service in Boston for many years, and an important friend to the Gay and Lesbian community of Boston and of UFMCC.

** Congratulations to Mr. Jack Bertz ("Uncle Jack" as he is lovingly called), long time lay administrator (chaplain, friend, etc.!) at MCC in the Valley. Jack retired this month from his position at the Valley church in Los Angeles County, and is moving to Hawaii. God bless you, "Uncle Jack" you will be missed greatly.

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Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	\$ 25.02
MCC Iliamio - Quincy, IL	19.04
MCC of Acadiana - Lafayette, LA	18.92
MCC of Johnson County - Olathe, KS	17.98
MCC San Jose - San Jose, CA	17.65
MCC of The San Gabriel Valley - La Puente, CA	17.57
MCC of The Ozarks - Fayetteville, AR	17.19
MCC of Birmingham - Birmingham, AL	17.02
MCC Long Beach - Long Beach, CA	16.22
MCC Charlotte - Charlotte, NC	16.05
MCC of Greater St. Louis - St. Louis, MO	15.87
Church of The Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldle, FL	15.22
New Life MCC - Oakland, CA	15.00
MCC of Greater Kansas City - Kansas City, MO	14.76
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - Ft. Worth, TX	14.27
MCC Ocean of Life - Costa Mesa, CA	13.78
MCC Mid-Cities - Arlington, TX	13.55
Christ MCC - Miami, FL	13.32
MCC of Gainesville - Gainesville, FL	13.29
Trinity MCC - New York, NY	13.29
New Hope MCC - Kingman, AZ	12.90

**** Congratulations** to Mr. Claude Launer, for his appointment as Lay Administrator of MCC in the Valley. May God richly bless you as God has blessed "Uncle Jack" in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ!!

P.S. - Please call in or write in your praises - we know there are lots more out there! Keep in mind, this news letter "KEEPING IN TOUCH" is one of many ways you can KEEPING IN TOUCH. May God richly bless you is our prayer.

OLD TIME GOSPEL HOUR Update

We have learned from one station that a letter has gone out over the signature of Falwell's attorney to all of the syndicated stations that air the program that they do not have to grant UFMCC time to respond.

Some stations seem to have ignored this letter because we are still receiving opportunities to get our message out.

The Rev. June Norris was on two stations in North Carolina. One station gave her time to speak before Falwell's Sunday morning broadcast. The other stations granted her two spot announcements that will air 42 times over a two week period.

The Reverends Chuck Larsen, Tom Jordan and David Pelletier will be representing UFMCC on stations in their areas.

The most surprised Station Manager was the one who said, "I suppose you have a copy of the syndication list." Our reply was, "No, we are only contacting those stations where we have received information from our membership." We were able to get time on that station!

1985 General Conference Update

Anthony Villarreal, the Conference Coordinator for the 1985 UFMCC General Conference in Sacramento, Calif. along with Ravi Verma, Director of Administration visited Sacramento to meet with the Hotel & Convention staff, and the Board & Congregation of River of Life MCC in Sacramento, CA. Anthony is in charge of the complete meeting from pre-planning and budget preparation to publicity & staffing. Rev. Elect Danny Ray has been appointed as the 'worship & music' Director for the conference.

Anthony is currently a freelance public relations representatives and was formerly employed with one of the major television networks where they coordinated meetings and conferences in Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the rest of the United States.

Anthony Villarreal & Danny Ray will be travelling again to Sacramento to do further planning for the conference. Anthony will also be taking the Elders for a tour of the conference facilities during the Elders Meeting in the first week of July '84.

The Conference will be held from July 1-7 1985. The Conference has promises of being one of the most exciting ones that UFMCC has had. So mark your calendars and start planning to be there!!

Conference for Gays & Lesbians of Color

The UFMCC's Second International Third World Christian Conference will be held on Oct. 5th through the 7th 1984 in New York City, N.Y. The theme of this conference comes from Isaiah 53:12 "You shall indeed go out in joy and be led forth in peace." The conference is open especially to Lesbians and Gays of Color (Blacks, Native Americans, Hispanics and Asians). However, it is a Christian Conference and all persons are welcome.

A brochure giving the highlights of the Conference, including registration information is being sent to all the churches. For more information contact Rev. Renee McCoy c/o Harlem Metropolitan Community Church, P.O. Box 574, New York, NY 10030 or the Fellowship offices.

Upcoming Birthday Celebration

"REFERENDUM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY" will be the theme for the Universal Fellowship's 16th Birthday celebration October 7, 1984 - An exciting program, including audio and visual materials will be sent to every local church to enhance your celebration.

Samaritan News

The Orientation Programs both at MCC Los Angeles and MCC Detroit have had a wonderful beginning. Initial student and faculty evaluations indicate that both are enjoying the program very much. While the schedule is very intense and both students and faculty are challenged by it, the benefits have been tremendous. Further program updates will be forthcoming. Please keep this program and the participants in your prayers.

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APRIL

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by May 15
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MCC DALLAS, DALLAS, TX.	\$2158.92
MCC RESURRECTION, HOUSTON, TX.	1691.35
MCC SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGO, CA.	1180.57
CHRIST CHAPEL MCC, SANTA ANA, CA.	1058.38
MCC LONG BEACH, LONG BEACH, CA.	1007.49
MCC IN THE VALLEY, N. HOLLYWOOD CA.	972.85
MCC LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES, CA.	924.92
MCC SAN FRANCISCO, SAN FRANCISCO, CA.	855.45
MCC OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, KS CITY, KS.	729.23
MCC OF GREATER ST. LOUIS, ST. LOUIS, MO.	707.36
MCC WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON, DC	694.91
MCC PORTLAND, PORTLAND, OR.	671.73
AGAPE MCC OF FT. WORTH, FT. WORTH, TX.	592.61
MCC NEW YORK, NY, NY.	580.08
MCC SAN ANTONIO, SAN ANTONIO, TX.	551.66
MCC ALBUQUERQUE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM	462.38
MCC SAN JOSE, SAN JOSE, CA.	458.23
CASA DE CRISTO MCC, PHOENIX, AZ.	435.58
ALL GOD'S CHILDREN MCC, MINNEAPOLIS, MN.	410.84
JOY MCC, ORLANDO, FL.	405.58

(per capita)

CHRIST CHAPEL MCC, SANTA ANA, CA.	\$22.33
MCC OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, KS. CITY, KS.	20.48
MCC HARRISBURG, HARRISBURG, PA.	19.05
MCC OF GREATER ST. LOUIS, ST. LOUIS, MO.	16.76
MCC LONG BEACH, LONG BEACH, CA.	16.74
ST. JOAN OF ARC MCC, CHARLESTON, SC.	16.32
MCC ILLIAMO, QUINCY, IL.	15.38
MCC OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY, LA PUENTE, CA.	14.59
MCC CHARLOTTE, CHARLOTTE, NC.	14.30
MCC SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGO, CA.	13.84
MCC OF THE OZARKS, FAYETTEVILLE, AR.	13.84
GOOD NEWS MCC, LAKE LAND, FL.	13.57
MCC PROVIDENCE, PROVIDENCE, RI.	13.42
MCC SAN JOSE, SAN JOSE, CA.	12.45
CALVARY MCC, REDWOOD CITY, CA.	12.15
MARANATHA MCC, HAYWARD, CA.	12.04
MCC SAN ANTONIO, SAN ANTONIO, TX.	11.94
MCC OMAHA, OMAHA, NE.	11.63
MCC DALLAS, DALLAS, TX.	11.17
MCC ALBUQUERQUE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM.	11.06
DIABLO VALLEY MCC, CONCORD, CA.	10.98

*** PRAISES ***

Dignity International and the Universal Fellowship will be holding simultaneous international conferences July 19 - 26, 1987, in Ft. Lauderdale, FLA. July 25th of that week will be a day of joint celebration and activities for the two largest religious organizations serving the Gay and Lesbian community. Other organizations are also being invited and encouraged to join us in this historic event.

MCC Washington D.C. has raised \$75,000 towards a new building!

Rev. Wally Hargrave reports the formation of a Gay and Lesbian clergy support group in Oklahoma City that includes MCC folks, Methodists, fundamentalists and orthodox.

Both the Women's and Men's Retreats of the Northwest District were tremendously successful. The Women's Retreat had nearly 200 in attendance for their 12th conference. The Men held their very first retreat with Ravi Verma as their special guest.

All the newly licensed and relicensed clergy!

Rev. Samuel Kader, Dayton, Ohio, who was elected as Pastor of MCC Melbourne!

Rev. Elder Jean White, Rev. Bob Arthur, Mr. Timothy Spiers who will be attending the "International Christian Gay Conference" in Amsterdam.

For the newly available "UFMCC Today" brochure in Dutch!

For Wendy Foxworth (MCC Albuquerque) and Alan Robertson who were appointed as Assistant District Coordinators in Southwest District.

For Rudd Canady (MCC Princeton) and Jill S. (MCC Morgantown) as the new Treasurer and Lay Rep. respectively from the Mid Atlantic District! And for Rev. elect Lani Remington, who was elected Assistant District Coordinator.

"Humanitarian of the Year Award" to Rev. Elder Troy Perry from the Gay Press Association at their annual Conference in L.A.

MEETINGS - - MEETINGS

The next Elders Meeting will be held in Sacramento, California, June 2 - 6, 1984.

Government Systems and Structures will be meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, in August, 1984.

ANNOUNCEMENT

SAMARITAN EXTENDED STUDIES

Jeff Pulling and Samaritan Extended Studies have a new phone number, 203-521-6411. The mailing address remains Box 820, West Hartford, CT. 06107. Contact Samaritan Extended Studies for information on correspondence courses, Adult Education materials, and ministry resources.

THIRD WORLD MINISTRIES

At the March meeting the Board of Elders unanimously passed the following resolution "moved that the B.O.E. authorize the Fellowship offices to open a special account for scholarship monies and travel assistance for Third World People for the "Third World Conference".

This account has now been opened. Please send your designated contributions to "Third World Ministries - UFMCC". This conference will be held in NYC, NY, on October 5 -7, 1984.

SAMARITAN NEWS

Samaritan College held its first commencement exercises outside of a General Conference May 22nd at the Los Angeles MCC chapel. In a very powerful service, Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry received an Honorary Doctor of Ministries Degree and Ruby Grammer and Patrick Mechem received Bachelor of Theology degrees. Dr. Perry delivered the commencement address and Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey gave a blessing to the new graduates. Congratulations were sent by many people and the Dean Rev. Sherre Boothman presented Rev. Dr. Perry with an album containing all the congratulations. The Los Angeles Church hosted a reception after the ceremony.

Old Time Gospel Hour

The Reverend Elders Troy Perry and Freda Smith are in the process of preparing their responses to T.V. Stations that have granted equal time.

Those stations that have said "NO" are being contacted by our Fellowship Attorney. The Attorney is also preparing to send a letter to all stations that have not replied by the first week in June.

In the midst of all controversy there are unexpected miracles. Several stations have offered to contract with us for air time. Those letters will be shared with local districts and churches to pursue the offers as deemed feasible in the various areas.

We will notify you when responses will be aired in your localities.

FROM BOARD OF PENSIONS The pension assessments for the First Quarter were due on April 10th. As of this writing over half of the Churches, Missions and Study Groups have responded. This is a very good response in comparison to the timeliness of tithes and excellent in regard to its being the first time for this payment. Letters have been sent to those MCC groups whose assessment had not been received by the 20th.

By General Conference resolution a church's obligation to pay this assessment has the same sanctions as apply to the Fellowship and District assessments. This means that a congregation could lose their Lay Delegate votes at District and General Conference if the pension assessment is in arrears. To date, the smallest pension check was for \$1.80 and the largest was for \$517.20. Total receipts so far are \$5,371.20 and expenses have yet to be paid.

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APRIL 1984

FEBRUARY TOP 20 TITHES

Received by March 15
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX.	\$1806.39
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX.	1482.78
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA.	1333.42
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA.	861.28
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.	807.56
MCC New York, New York City, NY.	590.38
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.	547.17
MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.	544.55
MCC Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA.	538.56
MCC Seattle, Seattle, WA.	511.16
All God's Children MCC, Minneapolis, MN.	488.11
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX.	479.47
MCC of San Antonio, San Antonio, TX.	429.85
Casa De Cristo MCC, Phoenix, AZ.	364.61
Joy MCC, Orlando, FL.	318.90
MCC San Jose, San Jose, CA.	288.03
St. John's MCC, Raleigh, NC.	251.46
Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA.	246.72
MCC Baltimore, Baltimore, MD.	243.95
MCC Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.	231.22

FEBRUARY TOP 20 TITHES

Received by March 15
(Per Capita)

Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA.	\$27.87
MCC Anchorage, Anchorage, AK.	18.45
MCC of the Desert, Cathedral City, CA.	17.91
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.	17.59
MCC of the San Gabriel Valley, La Puente, CA.	17.32
Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA.	16.56
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA.	16.36
Exodus MCC of Abilene, Abilene, TX.	15.41
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.	15.24
MCC of Northern Virginia, Oakton, VA.	15.11
MCC of Omaha, Omaha, NE.	14.84
MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX.	13.77
Trinity MCC, New York, NY.	13.77
MCC Charlotte, Charlotte, NC.	13.66
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX.	13.54
MCC New Haven, New Haven, CT.	13.41
Christ the Liberator MCC, Princeton, NJ.	13.04
All God's Children MCC, Minneapolis, MN.	13.02
MCC Midland/Odessa, Midland, TX.	12.36
MCC Illiano, Quincy, IL.	12.32
MCC of Acadiana, Lafayette, LA.	12.32
MCC of Birmingham, Birmingham, AL.	12.17

+++ PRAISES!!! +++

- ** Rev. Elder Don Eastman is recuperating nicely from his traumatic stabbing of March 12th. Don asked us to thank everyone for their expressions of support, love and prayers.
- ** The Clergy Conference in Kansas City, MO was the largest attended in Fellowship history. Over 100 persons enjoyed Dr. Tex Sample's presentation, workshops, worship services and sharing time, despite one of the worst ice storms in Kansas City's history! Many thanks to MCC Kansas City for their hospitality!
- ** Pomona MCC held a fund-raiser in the Queen Mary, docked in Long Beach harbor, with guest of honor Rev. Elder Jean White from London.
- ** MCC Ventura, CA celebrated their Chartering Service March 25, 1984 with over 80 people in attendance. Ventura had been a Mission for 12 years. Congratulations!
- ** ICM in Queens, New York, is growing with 13 active members and was blessed recently by a visit from their District Coordinator, Rev. Jose Mojica.
- ** Jim Powell, of MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX, has started a new prison ministry in Texas. They are in touch with over 50 prisoners. Keep them in your prayers!

SAMARITAN COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENT

The following resolution was passed by the Samaritan Management Team at its March meeting:

The Reverend Elder Troy D. Perry faithfully pursued God's call in the founding of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in 1968. Since that time he has given 15 years of dedicated leadership in the ministry of this denomination. He has also graciously given his public support and faithful guidance to Samaritan Educational Ministries.

In recognition of his exceptional service in God's ministry, we, the Samaritan Management Team, direct Samaritan College to bestow upon the Reverend Elder Troy D. Perry, in accordance with the state code of education of California, the degree of HONORARY DOCTORATE OF MINISTRIES on May 22, 1984.

All are invited to the commencement services at 7:30 PM on May 22, 1984 at the chapel of MCC Los Angeles. The Rev. Elder Troy Perry will be our commencement speaker. There will be a reception honoring our graduates in the Fellowship Hall following commencement.

ELDERS MEETING UPDATE . . . The Board of Elders met in Kansas City, MO, March 13-17. Highlights of the meeting included:

- + A vote to file suit against Jerry Falwell for defamatory remarks against UFMCC (a press release has been sent out).
- + Approved Charter status requests from MCC Spokane, WA and Quad Cities MCC, Davenport, IA.
- + Approved Mission status requests from Palm Beach MCC, West Palm Beach, FL and Midland/Odessa MCC, Midland, Texas.
- + Appointed Ms. Daune Littlefield (Agape MCC, Ft. Worth, TX) as Chair of the Task Force on Substance Abuse.
- + Appointed Mr. R. Adam DeBaugh as Chair of the Department of Christian Social Action.
- + The Elders took several steps to begin implementing the Third World Ministries resolution passed at General Conference (see minutes for details).
- + The Pension Plan proposed by the Board of Pensions was also approved by the Board of Elders.
- + The General Conference '85 Coordinator has been named by the Director of Administration. It is Mr. Ray Villareal.
- + The General Conference '85 Theme is "FREE TO BE," taken from Galatians 5:1.
- + The Elders pledged to work with District Coordinators on Fellowship security and contingency plans.

In addition, the Elders and District Coordinators met in Kansas City and the Board of Elders had an in-service workshop on personal and institutional racism.

SAMARITAN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES CELEBRATES SAMARITAN SUNDAY 1984

This has been a wonderful and exciting year for Samaritan. A brochure which explains what we have been doing is on its way to you for use as a bulletin insert on the Sunday in May you have chosen for Samaritan Sunday. Join us in celebrating God's generous blessings to Samaritan this year!

ATTENTION all persons who provide and plan Christian education programs in local churches! Samaritan Educational Ministries is compiling a mailing list of all Christian educators in the Fellowship in order that Samaritan may send them special resource information on a quarterly basis. If you have not already done so, send your name, address and congregation to either: The Rev. Sherre Boothman, Dean of Samaritan College, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 104, Los Angeles, CA 90029; or The Rev. Jeffrey Pulling, Dean of Samaritan Extended Studies, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107.

AN INSURANCE FEASIBILITY STUDY of the FELLOWSHIP is being conducted by MCC Detroit to explore the possibility of obtaining health insurance on a Fellowship-wide basis. Enclosed please find a copy of the survey sheet. Make copies for your members and mail surveys by April 30th to: Gay Whiteside, c/o MCC Detroit. The phone number is: (313) 281-2567.

PASTORAL VACANCY. MCC MELBOURNE is seeking a mature, experienced MCC Pastor who is capable of guiding a stable congregation to reach out into the Metropolitan area of Melbourne, Australia. The Melbourne area has a population of about 3 million and has a significant number of organizations and bars serving the needs of the Gay/Lesbian population.

MCC Melbourne was founded in 1973 and became chartered in 1974. The Church currently has 50 active members on the Church roll plus a significant number of other supporters. The Church recently up-dated the Pastoral Package at the last Congregational meeting in February. Based upon the current exchange rate of the U.S. and Australian dollars, the Australian dollar is worth about 5% less. Living expenses in Melbourne are about the same as for an average American city, and a little less than for the large American cities. Details of the Pastoral Package are expressed below in Australian dollars:

	Weekly	Yearly
Stipend	\$250	\$13000
Rent Allowance of up to	80	4160
Travel Allowance	25	1300
TOTALS	\$355	\$18460

Other benefits offered include furniture for the Pastor's residence, 4 weeks annual vacation, 12 sick leave days per year, public holidays, insurance benefits, and expenses to attend District and General Conferences. Also, the air fare to Melbourne will be provided for the successful candidate plus negotiated expenses to ship personal effects. The Pastoral Package is to be reviewed after the first 6 months, at the end of the 12 months, and then on a yearly basis.

Persons who may be interested in the Pastorate are encouraged to send a letter of application and resume including background in education, work history, involvement in MCC, a tape of a recent sermon if available, any other relevant information, and names, addresses and phone numbers of six references to: Dr. Duane L. Eaks, MCC Pulpit Chairperson, P.O. Box 179, Coburg, Victoria, Australia 3058. Home Phone: (03) 459-6686.

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP TODAY. This beautiful and newly revised edition is off the press and available from the Fellowship Offices. Its new and appealing format includes 2 color printing, fresh copy and quality paper. We regret, however, that all of this adds up to a new pricing structure:

Single	\$.25
25 Copies.	.525
50 Copies.	1.00
100 Copies.	1.80
500 Copies.	.65.00

Please Note: A sample copy is enclosed. All back orders will be honored at the old prices. Prices quoted do not include postage.

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MARCH 1984

JANUARY TOP 20 TITHES

Received by February 15
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX	\$2222.84
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX	1766.33
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	1112.20
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA	896.72
MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA	879.88
MCC Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA	723.59
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO	678.08
MCC of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City, MO	658.77
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX	621.97
MCC New York, New York City, NY	589.47
Golden Gate MCC, San Francisco, CA	540.83
MCC Washington, Washington, DC	514.21
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX	508.31
MCC Seattle, Seattle, WA	504.32
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA	474.25
Casa De Cristo MCC, Phoenix, AZ	473.51
MCC San Jose, San Jose, CA	372.69
All God's Children MCC, Minneapolis, MN	342.10
MCC Austin, Austin, TX	314.57
MCC Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH	306.83

JANUARY TOP 20 TITHES

Received by February 15
(Per Capita)

Good News MCC, Lakeland, FL	\$20.67
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO	17.89
MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX	15.58
MCC of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City, MO	15.36
MCC of Northern Virginia, Oakton, VA	15.24
Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA	14.79
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA	14.58
Sojourner's MCC, Ferndale, MI	14.52
MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA	13.90
River Cities MCC, Shreveport, LA	13.70
MCC of Acadiana, Lafayette, LA	13.68
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX	13.45
Christ MCC, Miami, FL	13.37
MCC Louisville, Louisville, KY	13.12
MCC Van Nuys, Van Nuys, CA	12.65
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX	12.59
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	11.97
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA	11.95
MCC Illiano, Quincy, IL	11.91
De Colores MCC, Los Angeles, CA	11.81

NEW ADDRESS FOR SAMARITAN EXTENDED STUDIES.

The new address of Samaritan Extended Studies is Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107, U.S.A. This is also the address of the Rev. Jeffrey Pulling; the monthly bulletin *Salt of the Earth Resources*; and Clergy Conference. Samaritan Extended Studies is the division of Samaritan Educational Ministries that handles correspondence courses, adult education materials and ministry resources.

MEETINGS! MEETINGS!

The Commission on Government Structures & Systems, the Commission on Faith, Fellowship and Order, the Hymnody Committee, the Commission on the Laity and the Board of Elders will all be holding their meetings the week and weekend prior to the Clergy Conference in Kansas City, MO. The dates for Clergy Conference are March 19-22, 1984.

REV. PERRY REPORTS FROM AUSTRALIA that MCC Melbourne celebrated a record attendance during his visit of 247 people! MCC Melbourne is looking for a pastor — all applicants may write to: Pulpit Committee, MCC Melbourne. They are offering a pastoral package of \$18,500 plus benefits.

REV. KRIS DODDS has had her license re-instated by the Fellowship's Credentials Committee during their January Executive Committee Meeting in Boise, Idaho. Kris may be contacted c/o MCC San Diego, CA.

THE BOARD OF PENSIONS of the UFMCC held its first meeting on February 25th. Among other business which is reported in the enclosed issue of "Insights" was the election of the following officers: Rev. Arthur Green, President; Mr. Paul Sheldon, Vice-President; Rev. Charlie Arehart, Secretary; Mr. John Willy, Treasurer. The Rev. Nancy Radclyffe, administrator for the pension program, was appointed as Recording Secretary. Elder Michael Mank attended the meeting as an ex-officio member on behalf of the Board of Elders. One more lay person is yet to be appointed by the Board of Elders to the Board of Pensions.

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP TODAY. This newly revised copy is off the press and available from the Fellowship Offices. Its new format includes 2 color printing, new copy and quality paper. We regret that all of this adds up to a new pricing schedule:

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500 Copies	65.00

Please Note: All back orders will be honored at the old prices.

★★★ PRAISES!!! ★★★

- ** The Elders and members of the TV review team met with producer Mary Anne McEwen to view the rough copy of "God, Gays and the Gospel: This Is Our Story." There was a consensus on editorial and emphasis changes and the film is ready for final editing. *Everyone* was very impressed with the potential impact of this film. Stay tuned! Hallelujah!
- ** MCC Anchorage, Alaska reports that they are alive and well, and would be even *happier* with some applications for their pulpit. They are a warm, fuzzy group in a not-so-warm climate. Actually, Anchorage's temperatures have been warmer than the mid-western U.S. all year! Another stereotype bites the dust . . .
- ** Rev. Mike Piazza, District Coordinator of the South Atlantic District reports that Johnson City, Tennessee MCC is flourishing and is a delightful church to visit! Also, he gives thanks for the new pastor of MCC Savannah, Rev. Rodger Harrison, and the new Worship Coordinator of Greensboro, South Carolina, Christine Oscar (formerly from Detroit).
- ** MCC Toronto reports that they are getting ready to make a bid on their own building in central Toronto. Attendance and offerings are at an all time high, as is church energy and enthusiasm!
- ** MCC Dallas has initiated some 21st Century thinking with their *Task Force 2000*. They will develop long-range goals and plans for what MCC Dallas will want to achieve by the year 2000 A.D.!
- ** Rev. Jim Dykes reports that they had a good District Conference in Northern Australia and were very anxious for Troy's visit. All the churches in Australia and New Zealand will meet together while Troy is there – to talk about G.S.S., the Fellowship and the future of MCC in that part of the world.
- ** MCC Williamsport and MCC Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, report their highest attendance and offerings in their histories!
- ** MCC Washington, DC recently got a \$5,000 government grant for the Dinner Program for Homeless Women and Miriam's Kitchen breakfast program. Congratulations, MCC DC!
- ** Trinity MCC in New York City has called Rev's. Phillip Eberle and Richard Matera as worship coordinators – Congratulations!
- ** The South Central District reports two new study groups, MCC Baton Rouge, LA and MCC of the Brazos Valley, College Station, TX. They also have pastoral vacancies in El Paso, Oklahoma City, San Angelo, TX and Texarkana, TX. and are just *sure* that someone reading this will apply for one of these pulpits!
- ** Rev. Bob Cunningham is the new worship coordinator of MCC Galveston, Texas!
- ** Rev. Bonnie Daniel reports that Rev. Phillip Boetler is trying to set a record for starting new works. In addition to St. Cloud, he has started outreaches into Fargo, ND and Duluth, MN!

- ** Rev. Elder Jean White reports that Rev. Bob Arthur's installation in Birmingham, England went very well – in fact, they had the largest attendance they've ever had at an all-United Kingdom function. Bob loves Birmingham, we are told, and they love him!
- ** Jean also reports that there is great excitement in Denmark because two major cities, Arhus and Barnholm are interested in having people come from UFMCO to speak to them. In Arhus, 6 people have gathered to begin worshipping.
- ** Translations are moving ahead! In addition to materials in Spanish and German, we now have materials translated and printed into French and translated (getting ready to be printed) in Dutch. The Danish groups are also working on translations!
- ** Jean has one more praise, and that is for a Church Extension Office outside her home, at 56 Knight's Hill, West Norwood, England, SE27 (as of March 1, 1984).
- ** Hong Tan, Worship Coordinator of MCC North London writes that the North London Church is a great source of joy to him and is growing in spirit, love and numbers. They've started a Dance/Drama group and have many special plans for Lent and Easter.
- ** Sister Marlene Halpin (remember her, those of you who were at the Clergy Conference, GSS meeting in Ft. Lauderdale last year? She is the author of *Imagine That!*) reports that she is well and has been in New Zealand for 5 weeks giving workshops in many cities. She sends her love to all of MCC – especially those she remembers from our Conference.
- ** Dr. Don Shriver, President of Union Theological Seminary in New York, upon reading a recent issue of *Journey* magazine reports that he is much "impressed with the *global* ministry of MCC!" We were impressed that he took time to write us.
- ** River of Life MCC in Tri-Cities, Washington, reports high attendance and a multitude of blessings! They have 24 hour access to the building they meet in. The church was restarted in the Tri-Cities area in July '83 and they are presently getting ready to apply for Mission status!

+++

SAMARITAN NEWS. A new cooperative program has been developed between Samaritan College and the Union for Experimenting Colleges and Universities which is a "university without walls." This university provides access to all U.S. government financial aid programs and will allow all MCC people to pursue a Bachelors degree anywhere in the world. MCC people with Masters and/or PhD degrees can serve as their tutors. Look for details in the mailing coming out to all the churches or contact Rev. Sherre Boothman at Samaritan College.

Samaritan Sunday is any Sunday in May. Free worship resources are available from Samaritan College on request. Other materials from Samaritan Sunday will arrive in the churches the first part of April.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY !

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FEBRUARY 1984

DECEMBER TOP 20 TITHES

Received by January 15th
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX.	\$1771.35
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX.	1463.82
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA.	1203.34
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.	891.23
MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.	834.03
MCC San Diego, San Diego, CA.	707.77
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA.	658.46
MCC Washington, Washington, DC.	631.30
MCC Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA.	608.09
MCC New York, New York, NY.	598.10
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX.	477.37
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX.	439.22
MCC San Jose, San Jose, CA.	428.66
MCC Tampa, Tampa, FL.	418.00
Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA.	411.57
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.	400.65
MCC Seattle, Seattle, WA.	382.61
River City MCC, Sacramento, CA.	362.93
Casa de Cristo MCC, Phoenix, AZ.	298.57
Joy MCC, Orlando, FL.	283.76

DECEMBER TOP 20 TITHES

Received by January 15th
(Per Capita)

Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA.	\$33.46
MCC San Gabriel Valley, La Puente, CA.	27.02
De Colores MCC, Los Angeles, CA.	22.91
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA.	20.46
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA.	20.14
MCC San Jose, San Jose, CA.	17.50
Morning Star MCC, Worcester, MA.	17.26
Divine Redeemer MCC, Glendale, CA.	17.22
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.	17.12
MCC Rockville, Rockville, MD.	16.56
MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX.	16.52
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.	16.47
MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.	15.39
MCC Omaha, Omaha, NE.	14.28
The Church of New Hope MCC, Waterloo, IA.	14.24
MCC New York, New York, NY.	13.26
Good Shepherd MCC, Sunnyside, CA.	13.12
River City MCC, Sacramento, CA.	13.01
Family of God MCC, Morgantown, WV.	12.71
Exodus MCC, Abilene, TX.	12.48

+++ PRAISES!!! +++

- ** For the safety of the people of MCC Jacksonville after their church was firebombed on January 18th.
- ** For the first viewing of the rough copy of the TV Special "God, Gays and the Gospel: This is Our Story" by the Elders and appointed review committee on February 11th, 1984.
- ** For Rev. Nancy Radclyffe and the work of Spiritual Life and Clergy Care.
- ** For King of Peace MCC's new pastor, Rev. Fred Williams and their new building.
- ** For the meeting with the Elders and leadership of Dignity International - we are close to choosing a date and site for our simultaneous conferences in 1987 - A joint committee will be formed to plan a day of celebration for the two largest religious organizations that touch the lives of Gay and Lesbian people.
- ** For the Fellowship's new computer and word processor.
- ** For MCC Philadelphia's success in selling its building for a profit and for new facilities to meet their needs.
- ** For MCC Richmond's new pastor, Rev. Art Runyan and for new growth in that church.
- ** For MCC Roseburg, Oregon, who finally was able to secure a public place of worship after being asked to leave their home at a Methodist church.
- ** For Rev. Nancy Wilson's invitation to give the opening prayer for the Los Angeles City Council in February.
- ** For Rev. Perry's trip to Australia where he will be the Grand Marshall of the Sydney Mardo Gras (Gay Pride) Parade.
- ** For all our World Church Extension churches, laity and pastors the world over.
- ** For Rev. Jennie Boyd Bull's appointment, as one of two open Lesbians, to the Baltimore City Commission on Women by Mayor Schaefer.

Keep Calling or Writing in your Praises!

+++

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE:
All applications for initial licensing or re-licensing as clergy in UFMCC are due *March 1, 1984*. The correct address and phone number for the Credentials Committee is: Rev. Claudia Vierra, Chair CCCC, 1015 E. Jefferson, Boise, Idaho 83712. (208) 386-9588.

(The data above is corrected information from the last issue.)

COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ON THE BOARD OF PENSIONS and the procedure for pension assessments has been sent out by the SLACCC Office. If you have *not* received that information, please notify Rev. Nancy Radclyffe immediately.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

THE COMMISSION ON FAITH, FELLOWSHIP AND ORDER, THE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES AND SYSTEMS, THE HYMNODY COMMITTEE will be meeting in Kansas City prior to the Clergy Conference (March 19-22).

THE BOARD OF ELDERS will also be meeting the week prior to Clergy Conference. In addition, the Board of Elders will meet with the District Coordinators the morning of March 19th.

MCC JACKSONVILLE UPDATE

REV. DON JOHNSON, pastor of MCC Jacksonville reports that the church is in good spirits after the firebombing of January 18th. The church was firebombed after the airing of the "Phil Donahue Show" which featured Rev. Perry and people from the National Council of Churches and Southern Methodist University. There was considerable smoke damage, and an extensive clean-up is going on. Meanwhile, the 84 member congregation is meeting in the Odd Fellows Hall in Jacksonville. Don reported that "The attitude of the church is strong, and this event has had a unifying influence; the whole Gay and Lesbian community has rallied to our aid." The fire inspector and police departments are still investigating and no one has been apprehended at present.

This past Sunday, Rev. Johnson announced his resignation from the pulpit of MCC Jacksonville for reasons of urgent health demands. Don has had extensive surgery and plans to return to Birmingham, Alabama to be with his family. He wanted the Fellowship especially to understand that his resignation is *not* a result of the firebombing nor of any problems between himself and the Jacksonville Church (which he has served since his return from Sydney, Australia). Don covets our prayers for himself and the Jacksonville Church. His new address will be: Rev. Don Johnson, 2936 Old Rocky Ridge Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35243.

AN ESSENTIAL RESOURCE FOR MINISTRY! Announcing the long-awaited Volume 3 of the Let's Do The Gospel Series, Rev. Michael E. England's much acclaimed booklet, THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY. It is available for \$3.00 each or \$2.25 each for five or more copies (U.S. funds), plus postage for all but prepaid orders. Checks or money orders may be made out to UFMCC or the Department of Christian Social Action and sent to: UFMCC Department of Christian Social Action, Post Office Box 8855, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

REMEMBER WORLD CHURCH EXTENSION SUNDAY on February 12th, 1984. Materials are being sent out from the Fellowship Offices including a poster for your church and a letter from Rev. Elder Jean White. Also, the current issue of JOURNEY magazine focuses on World Church Extension.

KEEPING IN TOUCH APOLOGIES TO: Golden Gate MCC, San Francisco, CA who were accidentally excluded from the Top 20 Amounts list in October. They should have been listed 8th with an amount of \$601.04.

ALL CHURCHES MUST NOW PAY SOCIAL SECURITY TAX! A copy of an article by Manfred Holck, Jr. is included with this issue of Keeping In Touch. Holck is a Certified Public Accountant and publisher of *The Clergy Journal*. He is also associate pastor at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Austin, TX.

BE INFORMED! BE ENTERTAINED! Subscribe to *JOURNEY*. If you are already receiving it, check your subscription dates. It may be time to renew your order. *JOURNEY* Magazine also makes a pertinent and thoughtful gift for friends and loved ones!

CONGRATULATIONS to Jim Corrigan of MCC Ft. Lauderdale for being the winner of the short story contest in the last issue of *JOURNEY*!!

SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS AND YOUR CONCERNS with your brothers and sisters. Send the info to Keeping In Touch, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029.

BECOME INVOLVED in the Network of White People Against Racism. To receive materials and to be placed on the mailing list, contact Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, UFMCC Administrative Offices, Los Angeles, California.

A SPECIAL THANKS to Maryanne Mulligan who has given so freely and generously of her time and efforts to the Fellowship Offices for so long. She is our most faithful and dedicated volunteer. Maryanne will be profiled in an upcoming issue of *JOURNEY* Magazine.

A HEARTY "WELCOME ABOARD" to Marie Rapley, the new Assistant Administrator of the Fellowship Offices. She has already demonstrated her ability, diplomacy, tact and has succeeded in this short period of time in winning the high regard of all her coworkers.

†††

1984 UFMCC CALENDARS!!!

A beautiful and valuable asset to any home or church! Filled with photos and ALL important Fellowship conference and meeting dates. Only \$4.95 + \$1.00 postage. Be sure to order your copies now!

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†††

keeping *axn* in touch

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JANUARY 1984

NOVEMBER TOP 20 TITHES

Received by December 15
(In Amount Given)

MCC of Dallas, Dallas, TX.	\$1567.73
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX.	1366.18
Agape MCC of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX.	1327.80
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.	814.69
Church of the Holy Spirit, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.	770.19
MCC Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA.	661.75
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA.	638.89
MCC Portland, Portland, OR.	613.53
MCC New York, New York, NY.	588.34
MCC Tampa, Tampa, FL.	515.73
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.	487.81
Golden Gate MCC, San Francisco, CA.	484.53
MCC San Diego, San Diego, CA.	482.09
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX.	443.54
MCC Tacoma, Tacoma, WA.	370.85
All God's Children MCC, Minneapolis, MN.	309.69
MCC Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM.	280.67
MCC Baltimore, Baltimore, MD.	269.09
St. John's MCC, Raleigh, NC.	262.30
MCC Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA.	225.89

NOVEMBER TOP 20 TITHES

Received by December 15
(Per Capita)

Agape MCC of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX.	\$38.27
De Colores MCC, Los Angeles, CA.	17.94
MCC of the Pomona Valley, Pomona, CA.	17.74
MCC Tacoma, Tacoma, WA.	17.74
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.	16.48
MCC of Portland, Portland, OR.	15.30
Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA.	13.90
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA.	12.22
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX.	11.61
MCC Boise, Boise, ID.	11.50
MCC New York, New York, NY.	11.19
MCC Louisville, Louisville, KY.	10.77
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.	10.76
MCC of Acadiana, Acadiana, LA.	10.74
Trinity MCC, New York, NY.	10.72
MCC Illiano, Quincy, IL.	10.70
MCC Anchorage, Anchorage, AK.	10.34
MCC Washington, Washington, DC.	10.12
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX.	9.71
Oasis MCC, Phoenix, AZ.	9.57
MCC of Johnson City, Overland Park, KS.	9.33
MCC of Tucson Truth, Tucson, AZ.	9.16

(This month, in honor of New Year beginnings, we are starting a new section of Keeping in Touch. It is self-explanatory and only requires that you mail or call in your contributions by the 1st of each month. GOD BLESS!)

†††† PRAISES!!! ††††

- ** For Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey on the occasion of her 50th birthday, January 3, 1984.
- ** For Rev. Bob Arthur who arrived safely in London, England on January 4, 1984 to begin his new pastorate in Birmingham and for the nine churches and many individuals who have pledged financial support for his ministry for at least one year.
- ** For MCC Pomona's beautiful new facility.
- ** For MCC Spokane and Pastor Austin Amerine. They had 114 in church services recently!
- ** For. Rev. Harry deJong who is out of the hospital after a serious accident.
- ** For Rev. Delores Berry, new pastor of MCC Portland, who is out of the hospital after a recent illness.
- ** For Rev. Perry's recent appearance on the Phil Donahue Show.
- ** For MCC Middlesborough, England's new church home.
- ** For an exciting year ahead for UFMCC!

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— THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING of November, 1983, have been sent to all churches and subscribers. Copies are available upon request for \$3.00 each.

— THE NEWLY REVISED "UFMCC TODAY" pamphlet will be available from the Fellowship Offices as of February 15, 1983. The price is 30 cents per copy.

— THE REVISED UFMCC BY-LAWS are also available from Fellowship Offices for 75 cents each.

— THE REPORTS AND DIRECTIVES of General Conference XI in Toronto, Ontario are now available and have been sent to all those Conference registrants for whom we had proper addresses. If you have not received your copy, please contact us. If you did not register for Conference, copies are available from the Fellowship Offices for \$10.00.

WORLD CHURCH EXTENSION – On February 12th, 1984, the whole Fellowship will be celebrating World Church Extension. Materials are being sent from the Fellowship Offices to help celebrate this important day (including a poster for your church and a letter from Rev. Elder Jean White). Also, the upcoming February issue of JOURNEY focuses on World Church Extension. Please remember *all* of our pastors, worship coordinators and lay leaders in Church Extension areas in your prayers.

BROCHURES AND INFORMATION concerning the Summer '84 "Orientation to MCC Pastoring" program are now available from Samaritan College, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 104, Los Angeles, CA 90029. Phone: (213) 464-5100. The entire six-week program will be available in Los Angeles and two-week sessions will be hosted in Dallas and Detroit.

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: All applications for initial licensing or re-licensing as clergy in UFMCC are due *March 15, 1984*. The correct address and phone number for the Credentials Committee is: Rev. Claudia Vierra, Chair CCCC, 1015 E. Jefferson, Boise, Idaho 83702. (208) 386-9588.

TAX GUIDE FOR CLERGY. "Income Tax Law for Ministers and Religious Workers," 1984 Edition for preparing 1983 taxes. Available through: Worth Tax Service, Box 725, Winona Lake, Indiana 46590. The cost is \$3.95 each for 1 through 4 copies plus postage and handling. This publication explains what is salary and professional income, who qualifies for parsonage allowance, recording of professional expenses, Social Security law, etc. A most valuable aid for those involved in church finances.

REV. DELORES BERRY HAS RECORDED FOUR SONGS by Terry Snowden. The title song "Dancing on the Water with Jesus," was inspired by an article written by Rev. Jennie Boyd Bull which appeared in a 1980 issue of The Gay Christian. The other songs are "Say Hello," "Lord's Prayer" and "Jesus Is My Savior." All four songs were written for Rev. Berry and with her singing style in mind. The instrumental accompaniment is provided by a very popular Baltimore jazz group called "Moon August."

These songs are available on cassette for \$4.25 + postage. Make checks payable to "Snowden Productions," P.O. Box 12162, Portland, Oregon 97212.

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Get your personal copy or copies to give as gifts of Norman Pittenger's outstanding book, *"Gay Lifestyles: A Christian Interpretation of Homosexuality and the Homosexual."*

Hardcover\$5.25
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ATTENTION! ALL THOSE PERSONS APPLYING FOR INITIAL LICENSURE, RELICENSURE OR ORDINATION CANDIDACY: In order to have the *correct* information concerning procedures, requirements and proper forms, you must use the *newly revised* (after General Conference XI in Toronto) Clergy Manual. This manual is available for \$10 from the Credentials Committee at the following address: Rev. Claudia Vierra, Chair CCCC, 1015 E. Jefferson, Boise, Idaho 83702. (208) 386-9588.

REV. JOHN BARBONE suffered a very bad fire in his apartment just before Christmas during the coldest day of 1983 in Kansas City, MO. Although the material losses were great, no one was injured. John wishes to thank all his friends, and MCC Churches everywhere for the overwhelming support he received. He said that it's "nice to find yourself part of such a large and warm family as UFMCC, and" he's learning every day that it's true that "God's will won't take you where God's grace won't sustain you."

REV. ANNE KEAST of Louisville, KY, wishes to offer her thanks for all the many expressions of sympathy on the death of Sandy Taylor.

1984 UFMCC CALENDARS!

This beautiful first edition is replete with photos and ALL important Fellowship conference and meeting dates. A unique offer for only \$4.95 + \$1.00 postage. Order your copy now!

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THE FELLOWSHIP STAFF
WISHES EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU
A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

MORE IN '84!

keeping in touch

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OCTOBER, 1983

AUGUST TOP 20 TITHES

Received by September 15
(Per Capita)

Maranatha MCC, Hayward, CA	\$21.41
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA	17.90
MCC of the Pomona Valley, Pomona, CA	17.42
MCC of Birmingham, Birmingham, AL	15.27
MCC of San Jose, San Jose, CA	15.20
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO	14.87
MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX	14.70
Church of the Resurrection MCC, Chicago, IL	13.35
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	13.15
Pikes Peak MCC, Colorado Springs, CO	12.92
Trinity MCC, New York, NY	11.68
MCC of the Redwoods, San Rafael, CA	11.59
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX	11.20
All God's Children MCC, Minneapolis, MN	11.08
MCC Amarillo, Amarillo, TX	10.43
MCC New Haven, New Haven, CT	10.26
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX	10.22
MCC of Northern Virginia, Oakton, VA	10.07
Family of Peace MCC, Overland Park, KS	9.90
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX	9.87

AUGUST TOP 20 TITHES

Received by September 15
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas, Dallas, TX	\$1636.44
MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX	1445.54
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	935.35
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA	676.77
MCC Long Beach, Long Beach, CA	655.20
MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA	549.22
MCC Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA	534.10
MCC San Diego, San Diego, CA	496.29
MCC Washington, Washington, DC	477.10
MCC of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO	468.41
MCC San Antonio, San Antonio, TX	422.72
Golden Gate MCC, San Francisco, CA	419.38
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, Ft. Worth, TX	404.77
MCC San Jose, San Jose, CA	380.24
MCC Tampa, Tampa, FL	360.99
MCC of the Pomona Valley, Pomona, CA	332.80
MCC of Greater Tulsa, Tulsa, OK	327.60
MCC Atlanta, Atlanta, GA	299.44
MCC Seattle, Seattle, WA	292.58
MCC New York, New York, NY	260.98

THE GOVERNING BOARD of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA will be meeting in Hartford, CT, November 9-11, 1983. Rev. Nancy Wilson and Mr. Adam DeBaugh will be present at this meeting during which the Governing Board will vote on UFMCC's eligibility for membership in the NCC. Also, on November 9th, Rev. Wilson will be preaching at a special MCC worship service to be held at the Episcopal Cathedral in Hartford in celebration of the 10th anniversary of MCC Hartford. Congratulations MCC Hartford!

MCC TUCSON, ARIZONA has changed its name from "Truth Chapel MCC" to the former, and are proud to announce their move to a new building at 560 South Stone Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701. Congratulations MCC Tucson!

OUR MCC FEASIBILITY GROUP in Roseburg, Oregon has been asked to leave their church home, the United Methodist Church in Roseburg by a congregational vote of 94-199. The 10 members of the Roseburg church, with support from MCC's in Portland and Eugene, met for several months with members of the Methodist Church. In spite of the negative vote, members of the Roseburg church celebrated the positive responses from Methodist Church members and felt good about the witness they could be for MCC's ministry. Please keep our brothers and sisters of Roseburg in your prayers!

THE REPORTS AND DIRECTIVES of General Conference XI will be mailed to all persons who *pre-registered* for the General Conference. If you registered late in Toronto, and wish to receive your copy of the Reports, send your name and address to: UFMCC, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029. Thank you for your cooperation. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy of the Reports, please send \$10.00 to the above address. (Please include money for postage if you are writing from outside North America.)

The Revised UFMCC By-Laws are now available from the Fellowship Offices for 75 cents.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to translate UFMCC materials into languages other than English. If you have language translation skills, please contact the Fellowship Offices and let us know your areas of expertise. Thank you!

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS RESOURCES FROM SAMARITAN EXTENDED STUDIES

The 1983 Advent season begins Sunday, November 27, and Samaritan Extended Studies is once again making worship resources available to MCC congregations. An Advent resource booklet and a Christmas Eve service, both of which were also offered in 1982, are now ready.

Advent Resource Booklet contains information about the season of Advent, the colors of Advent, the Advent Wreath, Advent-Calls to Worship (for lighting the candles of the Advent Wreath at the beginning of a worship service), and Advent Meditations. The meditations include a Scripture reading and short reflection for each day of Advent. This booklet follows the Nativity Story in the Gospel according to Matthew and explores the question, "Who is Jesus?" Cost is \$4.00.

Worship for Christmas Eve is a complete worship service for Christmas Eve provided as a resource for pastors and local congregations. Matthew's account of the Nativity is used. Included are Christmas carols in inclusive language, prayers, responses, the Christmas Story, Holy Communion, lighting of the Christ candle, and lighting of individual candles. The price for a copy of the full service is \$2.00.

Make checks payable in USA funds to Samaritan Extended Studies. All prices include postage and handling. Send orders to: Samaritan Extended Studies, 11 Columbia Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

THE PLAYBOY FOUNDATION has agreed to print the newly revised edition of "The Prisoner's Yellow Pages." If you have information that would be a useful addition to the Yellow Pages (names and addresses of agencies or organizations that help prisoners, newsletters, etc.) please send it to: Jim Becker, c/o UFMCC Prison Ministry, 5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029.

FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION on the UFMCC application to the NCC, write to R. Adam DeBaugh, 8301 - 16th Street, No. 201, Silver Spring, MD 20910, for a copy of "MCC and the NCC" available for \$2.00.

A CALENDAR FOR THE FELLOWSHIP for 1984 will be available by November. The *UFMCC Liturgical Calendar* will be incorporated in it and also available separately.

THE BOARD OF ELDERS will be meeting November 12-15, 1983 in Los Angeles, California.

REV. SAM EDELMAN has been elected the new pastor of MCC Springfield Family, Springfield, MO.

APPLICATIONS for the newly forming *Board of Pensions* for the Fellowship are available from the Fellowship Offices or from your local church. We especially need applications from interested ordained UFMCC clergy. Write to us or call us at 213-464-5100 if you are interested.

Rev. Delores Berry has been elected pastor of MCC Portland, Oregon. Congratulations MCC Portland and Rev. Berry!

Rev. Jim Glycer celebrated his partial retirement from the ministry October 1, 1983. Congratulations Jim, and God's blessing in your new ventures!

SPIRITUAL LIFE AND CLERGY CARE has a new address, P.O. Box 691566, Los Angeles, CA 90069. The new telephone number is 213-465-4227. Feel free to write or call Rev. Nancy Radclyffe. All questions regarding pensions can be directed to her attention. Also, look for her upcoming article in the November issue of *JOURNEY* Magazine.

Rev. Sky Anderson reports that he is working full time with *El Zocalo*, a San Jose United Way Agency dedicated to the hungry and homeless. Anyone interested in this special ministry, please contact Rev. Anderson at El Zocalo, P.O. Box 28176, San Jose, CA 95159, 408-294-5050.

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NOVEMBER TOP 20 TITHES

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MCC of the Resurrection,,Houston, TX	\$1356.70
MCC Long Beach, CA	796.20
MCC San Francisco, CA	712.70
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	499.14
MCC Portland, OR	402.77
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, TX	338.31
Golden Gate MCC, San Francisco, CA	323.80
MCC San Jose, CA	310.02
Casa de Cristo MCC, Phoenix, AZ	305.37
MCC Albuquerque, NM	299.54
MCC Austin, TX	248.98
MCC New York, NY	243.08
MCC San Antonio, TX	239.71
MCC Illiamo, Quincy, IL	235.44
Joy MCC, Orlando, FL	219.34
MCC Seattle, WA	210.29
St. John's MCC, Raleigh, NC	204.91
MCC Cincinnati, OH	203.88
All God's Children MCC, Minneapolis, MN	197.76
DeColores MCC, Los Angeles, CA	194.60

NOVEMBER TOP 20 TITHES

Received by December 15
(Per Capita)

Trinity MCC, New York, NY	\$20.90
DeColores MCC, Los Angeles, CA	18.35
MCC Santa Barbara, CA	12.85
MCC New Life, Oakland, CA	11.75
MCC of the Desert, Palm Springs, CA	11.22
MCC Anchorage, AK	10.40
The Church of New Hope MCC, Waterloo, IA	10.24
Marantha MCC, San Lorenzo, CA	10.17
MCC Providence, RI	9.63
MCC Richmond, VA	9.54
MCC San Jose, CA	9.51
MCC Rockville, MD	8.86
MCC Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	8.39
MCC Memphis, TN	7.93
MCC Long Beach, CA	7.84
MCC Albuquerque, NM	7.41
Family of God MCC, Morgantown, WV	7.40
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	7.20
MCC Dayton, OH	6.97
MCC Little Rock, AR	6.95
MCC of the Blue Ridge, Asheville, NC	6.95



WORLD CHURCH EXTENSION SUNDAY - A poster, worship aids and a letter from Elder Jean White are being mailed to every church to assist in celebrating World Church Extension Sunday on February 13, 1983. Plan ahead!

EASTERN CLERGY CONFERENCE will be held February 14-17, 1983 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Our special guest will be Sister Marlene Halpin who will speak on "Inner Healing." Registration and housing forms, plus a detailed description of the program, have been sent to every church and clergy person. If you have not received any information, please contact us immediately.



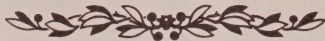
THE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES AND SYSTEMS is meeting February 17-22 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida to prepare the proposal for the 1983 General Conference. Housing will be provided by the Ft. Lauderdale Church.

GENERAL CONFERENCE UPDATE

Signs of increased interest as the time for General Conference nears are happening. Registration forms are coming into the office of the Registrar daily. Large posters are being sent to each Church for eye-catching display. Many Churches are making plans to have a booth at the "Celebration Fair."

Members of the planning committee will meet this month in Los Angeles. This year Danny Ray of Dallas MCC will be in charge of the music of the Conference. Rev. Renee McCoy of Harlem MCC will be in charge of worship. Mr. Adam DeBaugh of MCC Northern Virginia will be helping with the Media and Gary Chapman of MCC Toronto will be the representative from the host Church. They are flying to Los Angeles January 29 and 30 to meet with the Management Team.

REMINDER! To take advantage of the best rates everyone should get their Conference registration and money in by February 28th.



RELIGIOUS PERSONS ASKED TO CARE ENOUGH TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS

Chicago, IL -- If you care for someone, you will help to protect them from accidents.

"Your Caring Prevents Accidents" is the theme of the National Safety Sabbath which will be observed February 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1983 in houses of worship across the country.

Preliminary 1981 accident statistics from the Council show 99,500 persons died accidentally; the largest group -- 50,700 -- were persons killed on our nation's highways and roads.

The National Safety Sabbath, first held in 1979, is a weekend during which persons of all faiths are asked to make a renewed commitment to practice safety and to teach others to protect themselves, i.e. to use the safety belts in their cars and encourage their passengers to do the same.

The Council has prepared activity kits for Safety Sabbath that are available now in limited quantity. The kit's materials can be duplicated for use by congregations. For a Safety Sabbath activity kit, write: Religious Activities Department, National Safety Council, 444 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.



THE TREASURER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE of the Fellowship have sent notices to all commissions, committees, boards and departments asking for budget requests as input to the 1983 General Conference budget process. Please let us know if you have not received your notice.



NOTICE TO ALL LAY CHURCH CLERKS AND ADMINISTRATORS

I would like to know if any/all of you might be interested in forming a Fellowship network of lay Church Clerks and Administrators to exchange ideas and proven ways of church administration. If you are interested, please send me a letter. Philip Gallnitz, Office Administrator, UFMCC, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304, Los Angeles, California 90029.

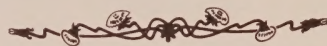
"DEACON TRAINING MATERIALS." What deacon training materials have you discovered or developed? Please share them with Dr. Jeffrey Pulling of Samaritan Extended Studies (11 Columbia Street, Hartford, CT 06106) who is compiling and editing a Deacon Training Handbook. Help put together a handbook that is the best our Fellowship can offer for preparing laypeople for the diaconate.

—Flash!—Time Change—Flash!—

The Fellowship Offices has established new office hours. The new hours will be 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Pacific Coast Time) Monday through Friday. We do have an answering machine to answer your calls at all other times.



WESTERN CLERGY CONFERENCE will be held November 8-11, 1983 in San Diego, California. Our guest speaker will be Dr. James Nelson, author of "Embodiment." Plan ahead!



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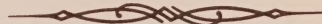
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SEPTEMBER 1982



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JULY'S TOP 20 TITHES Received by Aug. 15 (Per Capita)

Maranatha MCC, Hayward, CA	\$18.36
MCC of the San Gabriel Valley, CA	15.31
MCC of the Willamette Valley, Eugene, OR	14.56
MCC Quad Cities, Davenport, IA	14.12
MCC for the Pomona Valley, CA	13.30
MCC Santa Barbara, CA	12.77
MCC St. Louis, MO	11.67
MCC Wichita, KS	10.74
The Church of New Hope MCC, Waterloo, IA	10.68
St. John's MCC, Raleigh, NC	10.65
MCC Seattle, WA	10.61
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	10.23
MCC Ventura, CA	10.11
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL	9.71
MCC of the Desert, Cathedral City, CA	9.30
MCC Richmond, VA	9.11
MCC Nashville, TN	8.97
MCC of Ft. Smith, AR	8.96
Morning Star MCC, Worchester, MA	8.96
Chrysalis MCC, Denver, CO	8.71

JULY'S TOP 20 TITHES Received by Aug. 15 (in Amount given)

MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX	\$1074.79
MCC of Long Beach, CA	931.37
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	729.49
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL	545.93
MCC San Diego, CA	527.95
MCC St. Louis, MO	520.92
MCC Portland, OR	358.41
MCC Kansas City, MO	335.38
MCC Austin, TX	326.11
MCC for the Pomona Valley, CA	320.51
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth, TX	312.44
MCC San Jose, CA	290.42
MCC Atlanta, GA	276.05
Joy MCC, Orlando, FL	272.39
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana, CA	245.19
MCC Tampa, FL	241.86
MCC Wichita, KS	240.55
MCC Toronto, Ontario, CANADA	234.62
St. John's MCC, Raleigh, NC	217.34
Casa de Cristo MCC, Phoenix, AZ	290.92

ATTENTION! New billing procedures from Church Services. Starting October 1, 1982 we will be offering a 1% discount for bills paid within 10 days of receipt. There will also be a 10% charge for every bill that is 30 days old, and we will continue to add 10% for each 30 days that the bill remains unpaid.

CLERGY CONFERENCES

Western Clergy Conference will be held November 16-19 in San Francisco, California. Registration forms have already been mailed - ask at your local church office for forms. All clergy, worship coordinators, student clergy and significant others are welcome!

Eastern Clergy Conference will be held February 14-17, 1983, at Lake Byrd Lodge in Avon Park Florida. The Board of Elders and the Commission on Government Structures and Systems and the Commission on the Laity will be meeting just following, from February 18-22. One of our Florida Churches will be hosting these meetings. Stay tuned for details.

NOTICE TO ALL CLERGY

As of this date, we are no longer using the quarterly "Minister's Report Forms". They are outdated and not particularly useful. Instead, the Fellowship Offices will send out a one-page form for you to return to us two times per year, giving feedback to us.

Thanks.

Fellowship Sunday this year is October 3, 1982. Materials from UFMCC offices have been sent. Remember to celebrate our birthday.

PRESS RELEASE

A Ministry TO the Clergy of UFMCC

A ministry specifically for the Clergy of the UFMCC and their spouses or significant others has been authorized by the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee with the blessing of the Board of Elders. It is called the Spiritual Life and Clergy Care Center. Its purpose is to facilitate spiritual growth, development and renewal within the clergy and their significant others as well as to provide counseling in regard to personal and ministry concerns. This particularly includes those concerns where one feels that there is no one "safe" with whom to share.

All information shared in counseling with the Chaplain or other counselors is *strictly* confidential. Built into this program to insure confidentiality are such safeguards as, the Chaplain cannot bring charges against any clergyperson or serve on the DRC or CCCC. The Referral List Counselors cannot bring charges against anyone with whom they have counseled in the past two years and cannot serve on any DRC or CCCC sub-committee which is evaluating such a person.

The program design for this exciting new ministry was drawn up by the Reverend Ms. Nancy Radclyffe who has been appointed to be the Chaplain for the Clergy. The projected programs of the Center will develop gradually as there are funds and personnel to provide for them. The initial service available is crisis counseling around spiritual and temporal problems. Call or write Nancy. She promises to try to make a lousy day better and a good day great! Nancy says that her co-partner in counseling is God. With such able assistance this program should be a success.

Applications will soon be available for those appropriately trained clergy and laity who wish to apply to be Referral List Counselors. All such Counselors will be approved through the Center before being placed on the referral list. Clergypersons and/or significant others will be referred to these Counselors for ongoing counseling. If this is an interest of yours write Nancy and let her know.

As the Center grows a monthly newsletter will be added, Regional Centers (not necessarily by Districts) will be developed and eventually there will even be Retreat Centers for Clergy and their partners. The latter may be developed in conjunction with general retreat centers of the UFMCC and/or with those of other denominations.

During its early growth stages the Center will work in developing its structure with the Sub-committee on Concerns of the CCCC and then will be established as an institution within the UFMCC. While the Chaplain will consult with Concerns on developing structure, there will be no sharing of information learned in counseling whether that counseling is over the phone, via the mails or in person. One of the Chaplain's roles is to meet with the CCCC to advocate clergy concerns. The sole concern of the Center is the spiritual, mental and emotional well being of clergypersons and their partners.

A special thank you is due to the Southeast District for their initial funding gift of \$600. If others are led to give to the Center, checks or money orders should be made out to Rev. Nancy L. Radclyffe with the notation "Clergy Center" or "SLACCC." It will facilitate the work of the Center if you will provide Nancy with your home address and phone number. This will be kept confidential.

Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 3004, Orlando, FL 32802. The present phone number for the Center is 305-894-1081. If you call, please account for the fact that this is in the Eastern Time Zone.

Notice

The next Board of Elders meeting will be October 18-22 in Los Angeles, California.

Thanks!

Many thanks to Rev. Bob Darst, pastor of Quad Cities, for 5 years as District Coordinator of The Mid-Central District. Mr. Ken Elder, a lay leader from MCC Kansas City, MO, is the new acting District Coordinator.

- Congratulations to All God's Children MCC (the new church which merges the former MCC Minneapolis and MCC St. Paul) and to their new pastor, Rev. Roy Birchard.

Rev. Jeffrey Pulling, the Director of "SOTER" (Salt of The Earth Resources, Samaritan's new Extended Studies programs) has moved to Hartford, CT. *All concerns and requests concerning Samaritan correspondence courses or Extended Studies programs should be sent to him at: P.O. Box 14622*

Hartford, CT 06114

- Mr. LeRoy Dysart, a member of MCC in the Valley, has produced a tape of original music. We have enclosed a flier and order form in our mailings in hopes of exploring marketing tapes and other new materials from our Church Services Department.

"The North American Gay and Lesbian Religious Congress", will be holding their organizing meeting in Atlanta, GA, November 11-14, 1982. MCC will be represented by three delegates.

KEEPING



IN TOUCH

NEWS AND NOTES
July 1982

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP OFFICES
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304
Los Angeles, CA 90029-9990
(213) 464-5100

TOP 20 TITHES Received by June 15 (in Amount given)

Long Beach MCC
MCC of the Resurrection
MCC of the Valley
MCC San Jose
MCC San Diego
MCC Kansas City
Good Shepherd Parish MCC
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC, Des Moines
MCC Wichita
De Colores MCC
MCC of West Palm Beach
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth
MCC Vancouver, Canada
MCC San Antonio
MCC of the Pomona Valley
Christ Chapel MCC, Santa Ana
MCC Toronto, Canada
MCC Austin
Christ the King MCC, Oklahoma City
MCC Albuquerque

\$1232.75
1051.55
1010.06
684.21
633.15
546.80
499.95
407.43
391.83
363.86
346.73
318.86
315.70
306.64
306.18
302.27
293.02
284.46
268.11
264.86

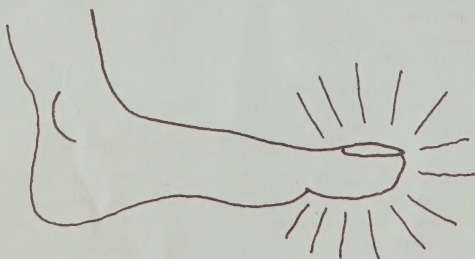
De Colores MCC	\$34.33
MCC of the San Gabriel Valley	18.66
MCC San Jose	17.82
MCC Vancouver, Canada	15.55
MCC Quad Cities, Davenport, IA	13.88
MCC Nashville	13.60
MCC Ventura	13.30
MCC of the Desert, Cathedral City, CA	12.31
MCC Anchorage	11.52
MCC of Christ the Liberator, Princeton, NJ	11.35
ICM Maranatha, Union City, NJ	11.04
MCC Wichita	11.01
MCC of the Valley	10.64
MCC Memphis	10.62
MCC Galveston	10.15
MCC at Boise	9.92
MCC Albuquerque	9.88
Oasis MCC, Tempe, AZ	9.65
MCC East Bay, Oakland, CA	9.57
Christ the King MCC, Oklahoma City, OK	9.44

General Conference XI - July 11-17

MEET ME IN _____



+ n +



(Spanish word for:)

Nicaragua has been hit by torrential rain storms which in six days totaled half of their annual rainfall. The government has issued an emergency appeal for international aid to offset massive flood damage. The 34 inches of torrential rain threatens to severely set back the nearly three years of immense progress in employment, agriculture, health, education and housing since the Sandinista took power in July 1979.

In the western half of Nicaragua, the rains have produced a human tragedy. According to journalists Michael Baumann and Jane Harris preliminary estimates are 100 missing or dead, 40,000 homeless, and known immediate damage of \$200 million. Besides washed out highways and bridges, agriculture, the mainstay of the economy has been devastated. All agricultural work was paralyzed for a week at the height of the winter planting season. Much of the crop that had already been planted was washed away, along with tens of thousands of tons of top soil. Thirty per cent of the plantings of such basic food crops as rice, beans, and corn were lost, as well as 90 per cent of the planting of cotton, the country's major export crop. Some 60 per cent of the banana harvest was also lost.

The Nicaraguans are not only beseged by foods but U.S. backed counter-revolutionaries have been carrying out raids along the Honduras border, along the Costa Rican border, and deep inside Nicaragua as well. They have killed Sandinista soldiers, peasants, teachers, and destroyed bridges. The U.S. government cynically responded to the call for aid with one shipment of food and a check for the grand total of \$25,000. Churches, unions, and antiwar organizations have begun to heap by responding directly to the Nicaraguan government's request for funds. The Nicaraguan Red Cross, the Protestant Committee to Aid Development, and the Ministries of Health, Social Welfare, and Commerce have established an emergency committee to collect and distribute funds. Funds can be sent to:

Account No. 418-05-1113-2
Emergency Relief Fund
Banco Nacional de Desarrollo
Managua, Nicaragua

In addition to financial aid, Nicaragua needs antibiotics and all other kinds of medicines; hospital supplies; foods, including canned goods, rice, beans, sugar, and milk; 10,000 tents for refugees; blankets and baby bottles. Money, food, clothing, and medicines can be sent directly to

Church World Service
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, NY

It is imperative now that all of our churches around the world prayerfully consider what we can do as individuals and as a Fellowship to help relieve the suffering as a result of intense flooding. A part of the Body of Christ is suffering, we must respond!

Rev. Ann Montague
MCC Corvallis, Oregon

Chicago, IL . . . The National Coalition of Black Gays-Chicago in conjunction with the National Coalition Of Black Gays, Inc. are pleased to announce that effective July 1st, 1982 the national offices of the National Coalition Of Black Gays, Inc. will be located in Chicago.

The new mailing address for NCBG, Inc. will be 1311 West Pratt Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60626-7789. For further information of NCBG, NCBG, Inc. contact Chris Cothran at (312) 764-2024 eve. 7-11pm.

Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco has granted a full tuition scholarship (\$250 per month) to its student clergyperson Michael McManus for his professional education. Mr. McManus is a Master of Divinity student at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. This scholarship is a pioneering move in the church's young denomination, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, which in its fourteen year history has grown to almost 180 churches worldwide. The scholarship marks the first time a congregation within the UFMCC has committed itself to financial support of the graduate education of one of its prospective clergy.

The pastor, Michael England, Moderator of the Board of Directors which voted the scholarship, said, "This is a new step forward in the maturing of the lesbian/gay community. It shows that our congregation respects its own needs and the competence of its professional leadership enough to commit itself to their preparation." McManus, who has completed his first year of the three year M.Div. program, serves at MCC San Francisco as Student Clergyperson, an internship position. He participates under the supervision of the pastor in staff meetings, preaching, administration of rites and sacraments and of church programs. Pacific School of Religion, widely respected among seminaries, was the first to graduate an openly gay student from its program and continues to welcome lesbian and gay students as full participants in its curriculum. For information contact:

The Reverend Michael England
Michael McManus
MCC San Francisco
150 Eureka Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 863-4434

-NOTICE-

Please note for future references, that when placing orders from the Department of Church Services/Publications, please refer to the new Church Services Department of Publications Catalogue. This catalogue was sent to every church in February of 1982. If you never received the catalogue please write to:

Church Services
c/o U.F.M.C.C.
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304
Los Angeles, CA 90029-9990
U.S.A.

or phone: (213) 464-5100

We will be more than glad to send a new catalogue to you. We will not accept any of the old order forms after this notice has gone out. Also, please note that NO telephone orders will be taken that exceed \$20.00.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

KEEPING

NEWS AND NOTES

May 1982



IN TOUCH

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP OFFICES

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304

Los Angeles, CA 90029-9990

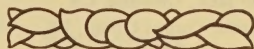
(213) 464-5100

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by April 15

(in Amount given)

Houston, TX	\$1,081.63
Long Beach, CA	882.05
Dallas, TX	877.17
St. Louis, MO	658.30
No. Hollywood, CA	614.21
San Diego, CA	513.06
Kansas City, MO	478.76
Washington, D.C.	475.00
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	390.77
Atlanta, CA	388.99
Austin, TX	302.39
Albuquerque, NM	261.94
Tampa, FL	259.93
San Jose, CA	256.62
Ft. Worth, TX	255.97
Toronto, ONT	253.08
Christ Chapel, Santa Ana, CA	251.06
Vancouver, B.C.	229.50
San Antonio, TX	212.19



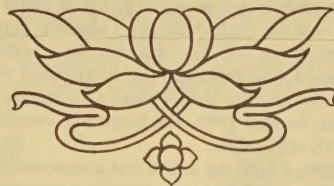
TOP 20 TITHES

Received by April 15

(Per Capita)

De Colores MCC	\$24.80
MCC of Greater St. Louis	23.17
MCC East Bay	19.77
Good Samaritan MCC	18.30
MCC of the Desert	16.66
MCC Albuquerque	15.22
MCC San Francisco	14.70
Christ Chapel MCC	14.26
MCC Knoxville	13.56
MCC Atlanta	13.32
MCC San Gabriel	13.18
MCC San Diego	11.98
Church of the Holy Spirit	11.22
MCC Long Beach	11.19
MCC Ventura	10.30
MCC Montgomery	10.00
MCC San Jose	9.29
MCC of Christ the Liberator	8.80
MCC Austin	8.81
MCC in the Valley	8.67

In an effort to be more available to our non-California time zone congregations, the Fellowship offices switchboard will now be open from 7 AM - 7 PM. Monday through Friday (Pacific Coast Time) to take messages and small Church Service orders of \$20 or less. Reverends Perry and Wilson's office hours will remain from 9 AM - 5 PM, but if you need to leave a message before or after, now you can!



COMMISSION ON FAITH, FELLOWSHIP AND ORDER

The Faith, Fellowship and Order Commission held its first meeting April 21-23 at Eastern Clergy Conference and unanimously passed the following resolution: "The original mandate of General Conference '81 for FFO was based on full grass roots participation by each of the districts of UFMCC. Because of budgetary restrictions, full meetings of the Commission will not be possible before General Conference '83. Therefore, the Commission on Faith, Fellowship and Order will NOT be proposing any bylaws changes for the Statement of Faith at General Conference 1983. We will continue the priority of developing an ongoing grass roots network for Christian Education in UFMCC to study the issues of the mandate."

FFO has developed two workshops to facilitate full grass roots participation in the process leading to any future proposals for the Statement of Faith. Basics of the Christian Faith I and II will be offered at district conferences and led by FFO lay and clergy representatives. The first workshop explores the connections between our personal and spiritual histories, and the second begins with our worship experience and proceeds to explore our understanding of the basic theological propositions in our Statement of Faith. Materials from these workshops will be used by FFO in its deliberations, reflecting FFO's commitment to grass roots involvement and to enabling the people of MCC to hold up our faith statements to the reality of God's working in our lives.

The next FFO meeting is scheduled for November 19-21, following Western Clergy Conference, in San Francisco, CA. Because the commission is not funded at this point, contributions are needed totalling \$500, for development of workshop materials and their dissemination and for transportation of the chairperson to the Dallas planning meeting. Please contact your local FFO representatives or the chairperson for further details. All districts should elect their lay and clergy representatives at their May district conferences if they have not already done so.

The Rev. Jennie Boyd Bull, chair

NCCC BOARD DEFERS ACTION ON METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES' MEMBERSHIP BID

Reverend Elder Nancy Wilson and Mr. R. Adam DeBaugh represented UFMCC at the Governing Board Meeting of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. The meeting was a long-sought occasion for discussion with leaders and representatives from 32 denominations. Both Elder Wilson and Mr. DeBaugh felt very positive about the meeting and its results. Below is a portion of the NCCC's open press release on the matter.

NASHVILLE, May 13—The Governing Board of the National Council of Churches today deferred for one year any decision on the membership application of the Metropolitan Community Churches, a denomination formed in 1968 with a special ministry to homosexual people.

Between now and next May, the issues raised by the application of the church, whose membership is about 80 percent homosexual, will be studied by the Council's Commission on Faith and Order, the unit that deals primarily with theological issues. The board also instructed the commission to involve the member churches and the Metropolitan Community Churches in the discussion. In May 1983, the board will consider again the denomination's application.

"This is not a delaying action but a responsible attempt to approach a very significant and delicate subject," said Bishop James Armstrong, president of the NCCC, following the morning business meeting.

The decision to study the issue was made instead of accepting the recommendation of the Council's Constituent Membership Committee which had reviewed the denomination's application. It had decided that the Metropolitan Community Churches met basic requirements for membership in the Council such as number of members, kind of organization, ecumenical spirit and action as outlined, in the NCCC's constitution. It had recommended that the Governing Board declare the Metropolitan Community Churches "eligible to be considered for membership."

The proposal to delay action for a year in order to study the issues was made by Dr. Paul Crow of Indianapolis, ecumenical officer of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). "This is an event of agony for all of us," Crow said. "This application is a unique application because it raises substantial questions about the essence of the NCCC...This Governing Board needs time and resources to explore this matter and to discern the views of the constituents."

During the 45 minutes of restrained but intense discussion that followed Crow's proposal, one significant issue raised was whether it is appropriate for the Council members to pass judgment on the theology of other Christians. Several speakers pointed out that serious differences in theology exist among the present members of the Council but that the communions continue to be in fellowship with each other.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST STUDY GROUP

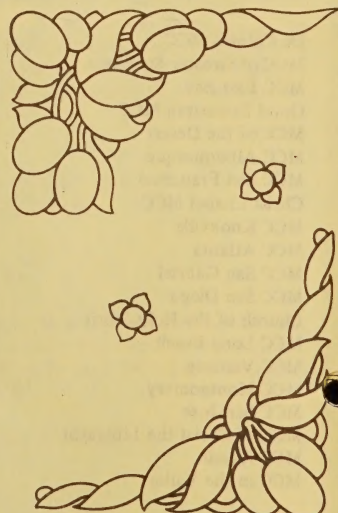
Ocean of Life MCC - Costa Mesa, CA
MCC Van Nuys, Van Nuys, CA
Divine Redeemer MCC, Glendale, CA
MCC Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX



Remember **ME?**

Seglinda Freud and all her friends are now brought to you by the Dramatic Publishing Company of Chicago! *Adam's Apple* (formerly *There's Something Wrong With You*) is an MCC original by Jean Gralley, performed at Denver's General Conference and in many MCCs ever since. Is your congregation concerned with inclusivity and wanting to have fun together? Dr. Virginia Mollenkott has called *Adam's Apple* "a gem!" Illustrated scripts are \$1.25 each (just 5 make a performance). That's not much for a gem!

DRAMATIC PUBLISHING CO.
4150 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.
CHICAGO, IL 60641



KEEPING

NEWS AND NOTES

MARCH 1982

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by Feb. 15
(in Amount given)

Houston, TX	\$1,285.86
No. Hollywood, CA	1,152.69
San Diego, CA	753.59
Long Beach, CA	733.45
St. Jude, Columbus, SC	571.60
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	482.72
Atlanta, GA	440.18
Kansas City, MO	439.21
Good Shepherd Parish, Chicago, IL	437.35
Ft. Worth, TX	334.88
River City, Sacramento, CA	328.94
San Jose, CA	322.58
Tampa, FL	310.18
Austin, TX	284.11
Vancouver, B.C.	277.82
St. Louis, MO	273.47
San Antonio, TX	230.03
Casa de Cristo, Phoenix, AZ	218.62
Wichita, KS	214.77
Nashville, TN	200.91

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by Feb. 15
(Per Capita)

MCC Memphis, TN	\$16.65
MCC Vancouver, B.C.	13.55
MCC in the Valley, No. Hollywood, CA	13.09
St. Jude, Columbus, SC	12.99
East Bay, Oakland, CA	12.72
Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA	10.66
MCC of the Desert, Cathedral City, CA	10.06
New Orleans, LA	10.03
Pittsburgh, PA	9.99
Christ the Liberator, Princeton, NJ	9.78
St. Louis	9.59
NoVa, Oakton, VA	9.24
Nashville, TN	9.17
Good Samaritan MCC, Norfolk, VA	8.97
Long Beach, CA	8.52
Ventura, CA	8.47
San Jose, CA	8.37
Montgomery, AL	8.33
Good Shepherd Parish, Chicago, IL	7.80
Tacoma, WA	7.80
Austin, TX	7.57



IN TOUCH

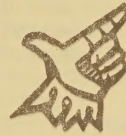
FROM THE FELLOWSHIP OFFICES

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304
Los Angeles, CA 90029-9990



--Flash!—Time Change—Flash!—

In an effort to be more available to our non-California time zone congregations, the Fellowship offices switchboard will now be open from 7 AM - 7 PM. Monday through Friday (Pacific Coast Time) to take messages and small Church Service orders of \$20 or less. Reverends Perry and Wilson's office hours will remain from 9 AM - 5 PM, but if you need to leave a message before or after, now you can! The new hours are meant to serve you better, but will be on a trial basis for 60 days. Let us know what you think!



With General Conference just a little over a year away, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the procedures for submitting proposed bylaw changes to General Conference, 1983. The following procedures were adopted at the General Conference in 1979:

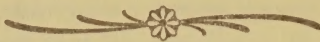
1. Each bylaw proposal submitted to the Bylaws Committee shall be on a separate sheet(s) of paper.
2. All bylaws proposals submitted to the Bylaws Committee shall be submitted by a District Conference or a Fellowship Board, Committee or Commission.

In order to properly prepare all proposals submitted to the Bylaws Committee for inclusion in the Conference Packet, March 1, 1983 has been set as the deadline for submitting proposals to the Bylaws Committee. Proposals received after the March 1st deadline will not be considered until General Conference 1985.

Please direct all correspondence to me at:

Larry Rodriguez
Chairperson, Bylaws Committee
c/o Metropolitan Community Church, Los Angeles
1050 South Hill Street
Los Angeles, California 90015
United States of America

Article submitted to Keeping in Touch
By Larry Rodriguez, Chairperson, Bylaws Committee
February 9, 1982



Correction and Thanks!: In reporting churches that contributed to our Cuban Relief Project we inadvertently omitted MCC Minneapolis - for which we apologize! Minneapolis raised \$2,826.41 for their own resettlement efforts, and co-sponsored 78 refugees, and solely sponsored 28. They also gave \$100 to the UFMCC Cuban Relief Fund.



Rev. George McDermott is the new Co-District Coordinator of the Northeast District along with Rev. Steve Pieters. George is also Pastor of MCC Providence and Chair of the Commission on Special Ministries. George reported that the Northeast District has given financial support to his Commission for mailings and travel. In addition, they gave the UFMCC Race Relations Task Force \$500 for its work. Though the Task Force was budgeted to receive \$700 per month, they are now still only receiving \$100 per month, because of the Fellowship Austerity budget. Thanks Northeast District!



Congratulations

- Rev. John Barbone has been elected Pastor of MCC Kansas City.
 - Rev. Candace Naisbitt has been elected Pastor of MCC Seattle.
 - Rev. Billie Edwards has been elected Worship Coordinator of MCC NoVa, Oakton, VA.
 - Rev. Kenneth Martin has been elected Pastor of MCC in the Valley, in North Hollywood.
- 

The National Council of Churches Constituent Membership Committee will be meeting March 15, 1982 in New York City to hear the first reading of our application for membership in the National Council of Churches. Meanwhile, the Executive Board of the Southern California Council of Churches has recommended UFMCC for membership.



DON'T FORGET to register for Eastern Clergy Conference to be held April 21-24 in Edgewater, Maryland. Dr. James Nelsen will be our guest speaker.



MCC Joplin, MO had a fire in the office building which houses their sanctuary and offices on February 16, 1982. The cause was arson, but apparently not directed at MCC. They had a lot of water damage especially. Please pray for MCC Joplin, especially that they find new worship and office space. You may direct your expressions of concern and support to Mr. Michael Schafer, their new Worship Coordinator.



New Groups

- MCC Greenville, South Carolina
 - New Hispanic group in Union City, ICM Maranatha, and Worship Coordinator is Rev. Jose Cruz.
 - MCC Buffalo, NY. Worship Coordinator is Rev. Buff Fisher.
- 

-The Board of Elders is on a talent search for:

A Chairperson for the Task Force on Substance Abuse. This person should be an MCC member, and have personal experience in dealing with substance abuse problems. They should also have time to devote to developing a Fellowship-wide program and communications network. At this time, Fellowship funds are not available for this position, so it will be *volunteer*. Please have interested persons submit resumes to:

Clerk, Board of Elders

U.F.M.C.C.

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304

Los Angeles, CA 90029

In Addition, the Board of Elders is also interested in receiving resumes from persons with experience in fund-raising, endowment funds, investments and overall financial development, for possible participation in a volunteer committee. We especially need the names of women and third world persons with such expertise.

KEEPING

NEWS AND NOTES

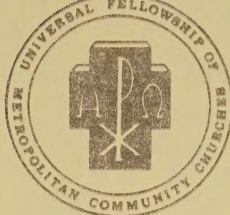
February 1982

TOP 20 TITHES
Received by Jan. 15
(Per Capita)

MCC of the Desert	\$23.68
MCC East Bay	19.50
MCC Vancouver	18.81
MCC San Jose	15.04
MCC of the Redwoods	14.81
Calvary MCC	14.17
MCC Melbourne	13.77
San Diego	11.82
St. Louis	11.78
MCC Christ the Liberator	11.45
MCC Iliamo	11.10
Atlantic City	10.10
Brisbane	9.98
MCC NoVa	9.98
MCC Columbia, MO	9.93
Tulsa	9.89
Church of New Hope	9.65
Agape MCC	9.38
Truth Chapel	9.36
MCC Washington, D.C.	9.19

Elders Update (from JAN. 22-25 meeting)

- The Board of Elders approved 2 Study Groups as new Mission Churches in the UFMCC:
 - MCC Knoxville, TN
 - Redeemer MCC, Flint, MI
- The austerity budget will continue as is through June.
- The Elders are beginning some research and planning for long-range financial development.
- The Elders voted to hold the Planning and Strategy Meeting (originally scheduled for January) in Dallas, June 28 - July 2. All Government Structures and Systems members and Commission and Committee Chairs are invited to attend this important meeting with the Board of Elders.
- The Elders approved a change in District boundary, so that the Southeast District includes Florida only, and the South Atlantic District now includes all of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi.
- The Elders approved the Report for the Commission on Faith, Fellowship and Order, which includes a plan of action involving Samaritan Theological Institute and Christian Education - a mailing is forthcoming.
- The Board of Elders received an exciting report from the Director of Race Relations, confirming that the Third World Gay and Lesbian Christian Conference will be held this fall. This spring, there will be regional conferences in Third World outreach, and on racism.
- The Department of Ecumenical Relations reports that the first reading of UFMCC's application to the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. will be March 15, 1982, at the Constituent Membership Committee Meeting in New York City.



IN TOUCH

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP OFFICES

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304
Los Angeles, CA 90029-9990

TOP 20 TITHES
Received by Jan. 15
(in Amount given)

Houston, TX	\$1,574.88
San Diego, CA	1,400.59
Los Angeles, CA	801.79
Long Beach, CA	626.70
Portland, OR	608.74
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	596.34
Good Shepherd Parish, Chicago, IL	544.29
Washington, D.C.	466.94
San Jose, CA	427.24
Toronto, ONT	422.31
Tulsa, OK	395.61
St. Louis, MO	363.01
Vancouver, B.C.	338.66
Ft. Worth, TX	311.43
Golden Gate, San Francisco, CA	307.49
Tampa, FL	298.42
River City, Sacramento, CA	290.46
San Antonio, TX	280.94
Pomona, CA	279.48
Melbourn, NSW, Australia	269.94



EASTERN CLERGY CONFERENCE will be held April 21 - 24 (until 8:00 P.M.) in Edgewater, MD at the YMCA Camp Letts.

Dr. James Nelson, author of Embodiment will be our guest speaker.

Details of the conference, registration forms and transportation information are enclosed.



VACANT PULPITS

MCC Oceanside; PO Box 118, Oceanside, CA 92054.
MCC Salt Lake City; PO Box 11321, Salt Lake City, UT 84147, (801) 364-5742.
MCC of Greater Kansas City; PO Box 10087, Kansas City, MO 64111, (816) 921-5754.
MCC Austin; PO Box 1131, Austin, TX 78767, (512) 477-7747.
MCC San Jose; PO Box 228, San Jose, CA 95109, (408) 279-2711.
Christ Chapel MCC; 720 North Spurgeon No. 2, Santa Ana, CA 92701, (714) 835-0722.
MCC Vancouver; PO Box 5178, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4B2, CANADA, (604) 681-8525.
MCC Beach Cities; PO Box 24591, Los Angeles, CA 90024, (213) 450-6670.
MCC Pensacola; PO Box 8087, Pensacola, FL 32505, (904) 456-8164.
MCC Worcester; 6 Wellington St., Worcester, MA 01610, (617) 753-8360.
MCC Richmond; PO Box 13135, Richmond, VA 23225, (804) 233-3430.
MCC New Orleans; PO Box 51384, New Orleans, LA 70151, (504) 945-5476.
MCC Louisville; PO Box 8071, Louisville, KY 40208, (502) 893-2883.
New Covenant MCC; 5488 Lincoln Boulevard, Cypress, CA 90630, (714) 636-6505.
MCC Brisbane; PO Box 317, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane, QLD 4006, AUSTRALIA, (06) 36-2106.
MCC Atlantic City; PO Box 363, Atlantic City, NJ 08404, (609) 348-6969.
MCC Liverpool; 25 Radstock Road, Liverpool 6, England, (051) 276-1715.
MCC Anchorage; PO Box 3-091, Anchorage, AK 99501, (907) 276-1715.
MCC Humboldt; PO Box 1303, Eureka, CA 95501, (415) 648-6006 or 776-7261.
MCC Dayton; Mid City PO Box 872, Dayton, OH 45402, (513) 274-4304.
Family of Peace MCC; PO Box 4025, Overland Park, KS 66204, (913) 764-7845.
MCC of the Redwoods; 2398 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Fairfax, CA 94930, (415) 459-5533.
MCC Tallahassee; 1237 North Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32303, (904) 222-2582.
MCC Acadiana; PO Box 91443, Lafayette, LA 70501, (318) 869-8444 or 873-4484.
MCC of Fort Smith; 1901 Fort St. No. 71, Barling, AR 72923, (501) 452-6071 or 839-2127.
MCC Topeka; PO Box 4025, Overland Park, KS 66601, (913) 234-8562.
MCC Ottawa; c/o MCC Toronto, 730 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario K1P 5P9, CANADA, (416) 532-2333.
MCC Adelaide; GPO Box 1006, Adelaide, S. A. 5001, (08) 271-1902.
MCC New Brunswick; R.R. 1, Moncton, New Brunswick E1C 8J1, (506) 372-4717.
All Saints MCC; 7985 Santa Monica Boulevard No. 109-190, West Hollywood, CA 90046, (213) 650-6806.

Maui MCC; PO Box 272, Lahaina, HI 96761.
Church of the Resurrection MCC; c/o PO Box A3134, Chicago, IL.
MCC Salem; PO Box 972, Salem, OR 97308, (503) 371-6072.

MCC Syracuse; 819 Madison Street, Syracuse, NY 13210, (315) 478-5225.

CLERKS NOTE: For Extension Areas outside of the United States, Canada and Australia contact Rev. Elder Jean White in England.



—Flash!—Time Change—Flash!—

In an effort to be more available to our non-California time zone congregations, the Fellowship offices switchboard will now be open from 7 AM - 7 PM. Monday through Friday (Pacific Coast Time) to take messages and small Church Service orders of \$20 or less. Reverends Perry and Wilson's office hours will remain from 9 AM - 5 PM, but if you need to leave a message before or after, now you can! The new hours are meant to serve you better, but will be on a trial basis for 60 days. Let us know what you think!

